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Giving the fullest co-operation to farmers, banks should extend loans for farming activities swiftly.

Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami
- Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

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First Wrapper

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** opened water from Mettur Dam for Kuruvai cultivation in delta region and showered flower petals on the released water, at a function held at Mettur Dam in Salem District on 12.06.2020.

Drive amidst lockdown to bring Rs.15,128 crore; jobs for 47,150

Hon'ble Chief Minister oversees signing of MoUs with 17 companies from across globe

In the presence of Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami, at the Secretariat on 27.05.2020, Memorandum of Understanding signing ceremony was held between the Industries Department and 17 Industrial Enterprises from Germany, Finland, Taiwan, France, South Korea, Japan, China, the United States of America, Australia, England and the Netherland for investment in new units in Tamil Nadu. The total investment through these MoUs will be of the order of Rs.15,128 crore, and will create employment opportunities for about 47,150 people.

The world economy which has been badly affected due to the Corona Virus outbreak is gradually recovering. At this difficult juncture, the Industries Department of the Tamil Nadu Government has been taking various measures to further improve the industrial growth of the State and make Tamil Nadu the primary State in Industrial development.

The Tamil Nadu Government is taking many important decisions even in these crises-ridden Corona times. These include formation of high-level committee headed by the Chief Secretary to attract new investments,

formation of economic revival committee under the leadership of former RBI Governor Dr. C.Rangarajan, incentives offered by the Government to manufacture Anti-Corona equipment leading to the manufacture by many industrial units of such equipment in the State in the last 2 months and the Government's sanctioning of Rs. 102 crore as working capital assistance through the Tamil Nadu Industrial Investment Corporation to 799 Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises in the State.

Already, exclusive counters in the Tamil Nadu Industrial Guidance Bureau to give special attention to foreign investors, 'Industry Friends' to redress the grievances of Industrial Enterprises, Single Window Clearance System for immediate project clearance, separate wing in the Hon'ble Chief Minister's office to make the investments easier and a high-tech committee under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Chief Minister have been announced by the Hon'ble Chief Minister and they are all in existence.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister with the vision to take Tamil Nadu ahead in the growth path, announced and implemented many new schemes. These announcements coupled with the favourable industrial climate prevailing in the State have resulted in the implementation of many new industrial investment schemes.

In this connection, to start 17 new industrial schemes in the States, covering manufacture of Heavy vehicles, Electronic components, Footwear, Information consultancy, Energy and pharmaceuticals, the following MoUs were signed in the presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 21.05.2020.

1. At Oragadam SIPCOT Industrial Park in Kancheepuram District, heavy vehicles expansion project at a cost of Rs. 2,277 crore providing employment to about 400 persons by the Daimler India Commercial Vehicles.

2. At the Sriperumbudur Nokia Special Economic Zone in Kancheepuram District, Salcomp of Finland is to set up a cell phone spare parts expansion unit with an investment of Rs.1,300 crore, providing employment to 10,000 persons. In the 2019 International Investment Meet in Chennai, the same company signed a MoU with the Tamil Nadu Government to invest Rs. 500 crore. Within a year, the same company has come forward to sign another MoU. This new investment is due to concerted efforts by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami to revive the Nokia Special Economic Zone at Sriperumbudur.

3. At Oragadam SIPCOT Industrial Park in Kancheepuram District, Semi-conductor Chip manufacturing unit by Polymatech Electronics of Japan at a cost of Rs. 900 crore that will provide job opportunities to 600 persons.

4. The Chung Jye Company Ltd., of Taiwan along with Aston Shoes Pvt. Ltd., to set up footwear manufacturing unit at a cost of Rs. 350 crore, providing employment to 25,000 persons.

5. An Industrial Park at the Mappedu area in Kancheepuram District by the Lai Investment Manager Pvt. Ltd., (LOGOS) of Australia at

a cost of Rs. 400 crore with employment to 5,800 persons.

6. A casting factory at the SIPCOT Pillaipakkam Industrial Park in Kancheepuram District by the Mando Automotive India Pvt. Ltd., of South Korea with an investment of Rs.150 crore that will provide employment to 250 persons.

7. At the Mahindra Industrial Park in Chengalpattu District, a vehicle spare parts manufacturing unit by Dinex of Netherland at a cost of Rs. 100 crore giving employment to 300 persons.

8. At Ponneri in Thiruvallur District, the Chennai Power Generation Ltd., an Indo-British joint venture will install 750 MW gas-based power generation unit at a cost of Rs.3,000 crore, providing employment opportunities to 3,000 persons.

9. A chemical manufacturing unit by the IGL India Transplantation Solutions Ltd., of France with an investment of Rs. 18 crore at Cheyyar Sipcot Industrial Park in Tiruvannamalai District providing employment opportunities to 30 persons.

10. A wind energy expansion unit by the Vivid Solaire Energy Pvt. Ltd., of France in Thoothukudi and Tirunelveli Districts at a cost of Rs. 2,000 crore, that will provide employment to 600 persons.

11. An Information Data Centre at Ambattur in Chennai at a cost of Rs. 2,800 crore by the HDCI Data Centre Holdings Chennai LLP that will provide employment to 200 persons.

12. Information data centre at Chennai at a cost of Rs. 1,500 crore by the ST Tele Media of Singapore at Ambattur in Chennai giving employment to 200 persons.

13. Wind mill components unit by Baettr of Germany at Chennai at a cost of Rs. 210 crore that will provide employment to 320 persons.

14. At the SIPCOT Industrial Estate, Sriperumbudur in Kancheepuram District, an electric car manufacturing unit by BYD India Pvt. Ltd., of China at a cost of Rs. 50 crore, which can provide job opportunities to 130 persons.

15. At the Mahindra Origins Industrial Park in Ponneri in Thiruvallur District, a Precision Components manufacturing unit of TJR Precision Technology Company Limited, at a cost of Rs.46 crore providing job opportunities to 100 persons.

16. A sealing materials unit by the Pillar Industries India Pvt. Ltd., Japan at Walajabad in Kancheepuram District at a cost of Rs.15 crore providing employment to 20 persons.

17. A Research and Development Centre, Lincoln Electric, America at the Mahindra Industrial Park, Chengalpattu District at a cost of Rs.12 crore which will open employment to 200 persons.

Of the above 17 MoUs, 9 MoUs were signed directly and the remaining through video conferencing.

Rs.300 crore package to rejuvenate Rural Industries

To rejuvenate rural industries, increase income and create opportunities for jobs and financial services, Hon'ble Amma's Government is implementing the Tamil Nadu Rural Transformation Project (TNRTP) in 3,994 Village Panchayats in 120 Taluks in the 30 Districts of the State at an estimate of Rs.918.20 crore with World Bank loan assistance.

The Tamil Nadu Government entered into an agreement with the World Bank for this scheme in February 2018. By developing many Small and Micro Enterprises, this Scheme paves the way for the growth of the rural economy. On 31.10.2019, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.Edappadi K.Palaniswami issued work order to 525 persons for appointment in various contract works under TNRTP. The beneficiaries were also trained in the details of the scheme.

On 28.05.2020, the Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated at the Secretariat, the Rs.300 crore Covid-19 Assistance Package from out of the total estimate of TNRTP, for developing rural industries affected by the outbreak of Corona Virus infection. To mark the inauguration of

the Scheme, he distributed special financial assistance to 5 beneficiaries.

The Corona special assistance package will be implemented under TNRTP at an estimate of Rs.300 crore for developing the Corona-affected rural industries and to benefit 1,39,574 persons – members of several Women's Self Help Groups, Individuals, Farmers producer committees, Farmers Producer Federations, Differently abled persons, Marginalized people and Migrant youth who have returned to their native places – for starting a new enterprise or developing the existing enterprises if there is one already.

Through this scheme :

- Rs.159.76 crore will be distributed as long-term individual industrial loan to 31,952 persons through Panchayat-level federations.
- One-time capital subsidy of Rs.23.97 crore will be disbursed to benefit 31,960 persons in 1,598 Producer groups at the rate of Rs.1.50 lakh per group (20 members).
- One-time capital subsidy of Rs.3.60 crore will be given to 240 enterprise groups comprising 5 members each (1,200 persons) at the rate of Rs.1.50 lakh per each group.
- A long-term loan of Rs.50.10 crore will be given through village poverty eradication associations to 5,010 youth who had migrated (for employment) and returned, at the rate of Rs.1 lakh each for starting their enterprise.
- Capital subsidy of Rs.7.50 crore will be given to 75 Producer Federations to benefit 37,500 persons (500 members in each Federation) at the rate of Rs.10 lakh each.
- Rs.49.92 crore will be distributed as long-term loan to selected 31,952 persons – Differently abled, Widows, Transgenders and the Marginalized including Orphans – as capital fund for livelihood enterprises.

This special financial assistance will be given for a host of Rural Enterprise activities such as production of Corona Virus preventive face masks, disinfectants and hand wash liquid soaps, garments, dairy development, rearing of goats, cows, poultry, pigs and fishes, running small eateries, sale of agri products, setting up small grocery shops, grinding units, manufacture of various metal articles, imitation jewellery, beautician work, wood carving/ wood works, electrical, plumbing and household articles repair, computer related business, maintenance of mobile phone etc. Through this, there will be economic growth, an impetus to rural business and improvement in people's income.

■

Hon'ble Chief Minister hands over credit assistance to Farmers Producer Organisations

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** hands over credit assistance to Farmers Producer Organizations based on his announcement on 18.05.2020. *(English Translation)*

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami, at the Secretariat on 18.05.2020, handed over cheques of Rs 10 lakh each to 3 organizations - Karikalan Pulses Farmers Producer Company Ltd., Tiruvarur, Melmalayanur Farmers Producer Company, Villupuram District and Kazhani Farmers Producer Company Ltd., Erode as a token of giving mid-term investor credit assistance to 22 Farmers Producer Organizations.

The Tamil Nadu Government, since 2014-2015, has been establishing and assisting the Farmers Producer Organizations in the State through the Tamil Nadu Agriculture Marketing and Agri Business Department. Thanks to the State Government's initiative, over 500 Farmers Producer Organizations are now functioning in the State. The Farmers Producer Organizations procure agriculture produce from the farmers, add value to them and market the value-added products in the market. Some of the Farmers Producer Organizations are also involved in exporting the products to foreign countries.

Due to this the farmers are getting additional income.

In view of the lockdown prevailing in the State, these organizations are procuring vegetables and fruits directly from the farmers, processing them and selling them as quality products to nearby families as a cluster at a fair price throughout the State.

So far, 113 Farmers Producer Organizations have sold 288 metric tonnes of fruits, 1,670 metric tonnes of vegetables and 283 metric tonnes of other food products to consumers directly, at fair prices through 98 mobile vans, 70 Uzhavar shandies, 55 wholesale markets and 162 retail outlets. These organizations require sufficient funds for paying advance to farmers for procurement of products and to process and pack them properly for taking them directly to the consumers for sales.

To meet the credit needs of these organizations, which come forward to procure, process and sell farm produce to consumers during the lockdown period, the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 07.04.2020 announced that a mid-term investment assistance of Rs. 10 lakh each would be given to the organizations.

Following the Hon'ble Chief Minister's announcement, applications and documents were received online from the Farmers Producer Organizations and processed through the Mezzanine Capital Sanctioning Committee. Now, orders have been issued for sanctioning of a sum of Rs.2.05 crore as mid-term investment credit facility to 22 Farmer Producers Organizations. This mid-term Investment credit will be given at a maximum of Rs.10 lakh each. These organizations should utilize the funds for the purpose they had received them and repay at the end of 5 years. Repayment of loans will facilitate the Producers Organizations to sanction loans for other Farmers Producer Organizations.

At the function held at the Secretariat on 18.05.2020, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over a cheque of Rs. 10 lakh each to Karikalan Pulses Farmers Producer Company Ltd., Tiruvarur District, Melmalaiyanur Farmers Producer Company, Villupuram District and Kazhani Farmers Producer Company Ltd., Erode District.

Tamil Nadu Government takes speedy steps to curb Corona virus, fulfil people's needs

Inaugural address of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** at the virtual review meeting held through video conferencing at the Secretariat on 29.05.2020, with all District Collectors over the series of safety measures undertaken through various Departments to prevent Corona Virus from spreading in Tamil Nadu. *(English Translation)*

Participants in the consultation meeting with District Collectors – Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Hon'ble Minister for Local Administration, Hon'ble Minister for Health, Hon'ble Minister for Revenue, Chief Secretary to Government, Director General of Police, High Officials of the Police Department, District Collectors, Officers of various Departments, District Superintendents of Police and Department Officials – at the outset, I offer my respects to all of you.

Six consultation meetings have been held with District Collectors to prevent the Corona Virus from spreading. The virus spread has been largely prevented as a result of action taken on the basis of views expressed at these meetings. As of now, the virus infections have increased all over India. Though the infection,

brought by persons arriving from foreign Countries and other States and by those who have already arrived from other Countries and States, has been reduced gradually, though Chennai remains a challenge to us. Chennai city has a huge population; it has more narrow streets and crowded houses. Many persons reside in one house. Still, the Government is taking adequate steps to control the virus. On account of the efforts taken by Hon'ble Amma's Government, the spread of the virus infection is under control. Even among super powers and in developing countries, the death rate, today, is high. But, in Tamil Nadu the percentage of death has come down due to the proper treatment given to the patients by our doctors. Also, the recovery after treatment is about 54 per cent. Hence, there is no need to fear. Still people should safeguard themselves. The only medicine for this virus is that everyone should realize one's duty and follow the procedures given out by the Government. Then, the virus spread can be prevented. Only through the co-operation of the general public, Corona Virus spread can be prevented. People's co-operation is very, very important. No vaccine has still been found for this virus. If a medicine is found, the affected person can be easily treated and cured. But, in the present scenario, it is due to the hard efforts put in by our Doctors and the appropriate treatment given to the patients that we are able to ensure that the affected persons return home cured. So, each and every person should be disciplined. That discipline alone can prevent the Corona Virus from spreading. The Government is acting on the guidance of medical experts. We convey that to people. To create awareness, our Police and Local Administration Departments carry out this task through the public address system in every street. People should wash their hands often with soap; they should follow the social distancing norm while going out and purchasing articles; and after returning home, they should clean their hands and feet with soap. If all these procedures are followed, we can prevent Corona Virus infections from spreading. Likewise, if symptoms of virus attack emerge, one should get tested by rushing to the hospital immediately. If you get admitted to hospital at an advanced stage of illness, treatment will be futile. So, if people develop the symptoms – cough, throat pain, fever, sneezing – they should immediately approach the doctor and get themselves tested. This is very important. If this is done, they can recover from the virus infection.

As for Tamil Nadu, we are taking several measures to prevent the infection from spreading. I wish to mention a few of the steps our Government has taken:

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Medical Services Corporation Ltd., held a consultation meeting with manufacturers for procurement of medicine – 22.01.2020.
- ❖ Order issued for purchase of medical equipment – 31.01.2020.
- ❖ The date of issue of order for purchase of medicines – first week of February 2020 – Rs.146 crore allotted.
- ❖ Testing of persons coming from abroad and other States by air started on 23.01.2020
- ❖ The date on which the first Corona Virus infection case was identified in Tamil Nadu – 07.03.2020.

- Starting of quarantine facilities at Tiruchirapalli, Coimbatore, Madurai and Poonamallee as a first phase – 15.03.2020.
- Order issued banning congregations in public places and closure of cinema theatres and malls in border Districts – 15.03.2020
- Order to close down kindergarten and primary schools issued on 15.03.2020.
- Testing started in State borders on 16.03.2020.
- Lockdown ordered throughout Tamil Nadu on 23.03.2020 and implemented from 6 p.m. on 24.03.2020.
- In its notification on 24.03.2020, the Central Government ordered lockdown for 21 days from 25.03.2020 and the State Government followed it.
- The lockdown was extended from 15.04.2020 to 03.05.2020 as second lockdown.
- The second lockdown was extended from 04.05.2020 to 17.05.2020 as the third lockdown.
- The third lockdown was extended from 18.05.2020 to 31.05.2020 as the fourth lockdown.
- The number of State Disaster Management Committee's meetings, held under my leadership is 14.
- Consultation meetings with Hon'ble Prime Minister of India were held 5 times.
- 6 review meetings were held with District Collectors through video conferencing.
- 3 meetings were held with 12 co-ordination committees.
- 4 Task Force meetings were held under the leadership of the Chief Secretary to Government.
- Chief Secretary to Government held 6 consultation meetings with District Collectors.
- Consultation meetings headed by the Chief Secretary, with all religious leaders, were held at the Secretariat.
- 3 review meetings were held with Medical Experts and Health Department officials.
- A consultation meeting was held with the Doctors of indigenous systems of medicine.
- At the end of March, 530 doctors, 1,000 nurses and 1,500 laboratory technicians were newly appointed.
- On 13.04.2020, 334 Health Inspectors and 2,715 multi-purpose health workers were appointed.
- 1,323 nurses were recruited through Medical Services Recruitment Board, issued appointment orders and were instructed to join duty immediately.
- Also, 2,570 more nurses were appointed on a contract basis for 6 months on 08.05.2020
- The services of Doctors, Nurses and Laboratory Technicians, retiring on 31.03.2020 and 30.04.2020 were extended by 2 months on a contract basis.
- 12 special committees at regional level. District Collectors and Police Officers are co-ordinating the field works.

- Consultation with industrialists, presided over by me, was held through video conferencing on 23.04.2020. It addressed the question of gradually permitting some industries in Tamil Nadu to reopen and in respect of taking safety measures to curb the spread of the virus infection.
- A high-level committee, headed by Additional Chief Secretary to Government Thiru. Krishnan was set up on 16.04.2020 to examine relaxing the lockdown and to submit a report.
- 15 committees, comprising IAS, IPS and Revenue officers were set up on 29.04.2020 to monitor the virus infections in urban areas like Chennai and Coimbatore.
- A review meeting, headed by me, was held on 05.05.2020 at Amma Maligai, Greater Chennai Corporation, on the virus infection preventive measures taken in Chennai city.
- Committees and an exclusive portal were created under the leadership of Additional Chief Secretary, Revenue and Disaster Management Department for bringing back Tamils stranded in foreign countries and other States, to Tamil Nadu.
- So far, 2,47,561 migrant workers have been sent back to their native States through 170 trains. All travel expenses have been borne by the Tamil Nadu Government.
- Overseas Tamils numbering 2,218 have come to Tamil Nadu by air and sea.
- Conditional permission was granted on 04.05.2020 for industries, service institutions, services, stand-alone shops, shops selling essential commodities in areas under the jurisdiction of Greater Chennai Police Department, barring the containment zones and in other Districts, to resume their normal functioning.
- In its continuation, permission was granted on 11.05.2020 to 34 types of shops to function with observance of due procedures.
- Permission was granted from 11.05.2020 for post production work for cinema/ TV serials.
- A temporary vegetable wholesale market started functioning at Thirumazhisai from 10.05.2020.
- Permission was granted for hair-cutting saloons to function from 19.05.2020 in all areas except Greater Chennai Corporation Police limits.
- Beauty parlours were permitted to function from 24.05.2020.
- Order was issued on 20.05.2020 to grant Rs.2,000 relief to handloom and handloom silk weavers who had not registered with the Board.
- New committees were set up on 20.05.2020 for intensive surveillance of containment zones in the Districts of Chennai, Chengalpattu, Kancheepuram and Thiruvallur.
- Autorickshaws were permitted to ply from 23.05.2020 except in the Police limits of Greater Chennai Corporation.
- Permission was granted on 25.05.2020 for 17 Industrial Estates inclusive of the Guindy

and Ambattur ones in the Greater Chennai Corporation limits, to function with 25 per cent work force.

Government's safety measures for field workers

- All needed protective equipment, face masks and gloves are being issued to field workers.
- Government has made arrangements to bear the treatment cost if field workers test positive to Corona Virus infection. In the unfortunate event of death due to the infection, financial assistance will be given.
- 'Kabasura kudineer' powder is distributed under the 'Arogyam' scheme to families in the containment zones for improvement of immunity.
- Zinc tablets and multi-vitamin tablets are distributed to all field workers including Doctors and Health workers.

Details of Corona special assistance distribution:

- A sum of Rs.3,280 crore special assistance was announced on 24.03.2020 before the lockdown came into force and distributed.
- Along with rice for the month of April, 1 kg toor dhal, 1 kg sugar and 1 kg cooking oil was distributed to all the 2.01 crore rice card holders, at no cost.
- To these 2.01 crore rice family card holders, eligible to get 20 kg rice for the month of May, 50 kg rice was distributed. They were given toor dhal, sugar and cooking oil at no cost.
- For the month of June also, family rice card holders, with 4 members in the family, will be given 50 kg rice, sugar, oil and dhal at no cost.
- Tokens for the month of June will be issued on May 29, 30 and 31 and essential commodities will be issued to family card holders from June 1 through ration shops.
- Steps are being taken to supply 15 days stock of dry nutritious food articles as a preparatory measure to 24 lakh anganwadi children.
- Cash relief of Rs.1,000 each to 35.65 lakh workers in the unorganized sector and to the members of the Labour Welfare Board for the months of April and May, was given in two instalments. In the first instalment, 89 per cent of workers were covered and in the second instalment 88 per cent of workers were given the relief.
- Unregistered hairdressers in the hair-dressers welfare boards who are left out, were given the two instalments totalling Rs.2,000 on 16.05.2020.
- All migrant workers were given, along with 15 kg rice, 1 kg toor dhal and 1 kg cooking oil at no cost as a relief measure.
- Acceding to their demands, workers in the fire-cracker factories were given the relief amount of Rs. 1,000.
- ESI employees of the match box industries, numbering 21,770 placed a demand to the Government for the grant of the relief amount to them. They were also given Rs.1,000 each.

- Through Amma canteens, 7 lakh poor people are supplied hygienic food daily.
- On an average 1.50 lakh to 2 lakh orphans, aged people, migrants and differently abled persons are supplied food daily through more than 250 community kitchens.
- A special committee, headed by the Chief Secretary to Government has been set up to attract to Tamil Nadu, Japanese, South Korean, Taiwan, Singapore and American industries that exit from some countries after the Corona Virus impact.
- An Economy Revival High Level Committee, headed by Dr.C.Rangarajan, former RBI Governor, has been set up.
- A three-month moratorium has been given for the repayment of loans by small and micro industries, crop loans and loans obtained through Housing Co-operative Societies and Fishermen Co-operative Societies.
- Three months grace time has been given for payment of property tax and water tax.
- Interim capital loan assistance – orders issued for lending Rs.2.50 crore to 22 Farmers Producer Organizations.
- For Rural Industries Development, a Corona special financial assistance scheme has been framed; orders issued to provide Rs.300 crore.

Present stock position of medical equipment

- Number of ventilators – 3,371 – those with Government – 2,501 (of these newly purchased are 560) – that of private sector – 870.
- Three fold face masks - Received – 1.34 crore; on hand – 32 lakh.
- N95 face masks – Received – 20 lakh; on hand – 3 lakh.
- PPE whole body protective equipment – Received – 9.5 lakh; on hand – 3 lakh.
- Laboratory equipment PCR/VTM total - Received 9.14 lakh; on hand 1.76 lakh.

So, I wish to state that Government is taking all measures speedily.

Laboratory Testing Centres:

- The number of laboratory testing centres in Tamil Nadu is 70 – those of Government 42 and those of private sector 28.
- In these 70 centres, not less than 12,000 tests take place daily.
- Exclusive Government Hospitals for Corona treatment – 23;
- Government hospitals with isolation wards for Corona treatment – 188 in operation.
- Private hospitals with isolation wards for Corona treatment - 169 (functioning)
- Bed strength of isolation wards - 35,646
- ICU bed strength – 4,018.

Infection details:

- Number of persons so far tested – 4,55,216;
- Total number tested positive – 19,372;
- Under intensive surveillance – 89,082;
- Number of persons recovered – 10,548. This is 54.45 per cent;
- Fatality – 145. This is 0.75 per cent.

The Government has created conditions for the uninterrupted supply of essential commodities:

Easy availability of vegetables at all places has been made possible by our officers of Agriculture Department. Vegetable prices have been kept under control as officers of the Department of Local Administration too joined in its implementation. Agricultural works are being carried out all over Tamil Nadu without any hindrance. Required essential commodities are also supplied in ration shops without any difficulty.

I wish to mention today's price of vegetables (per kg) – Tomato – Rs.8; Potato – Rs.23; Big Onion – Rs.10; Brinjal, Lady's finger, Radish – Rs.20; Bitter gourd, Carrot – Rs. 20; Country beans, chillis, Beetroot – Rs.35. This shows that the Government is keeping an eye on prices. The Government has made arrangements for the supply of essential commodities wholly to people without causing any difficulty to them. Moreover, our officers deliver the essential commodities to people in containment zones at their door-step. This has also been done by Government.

Police Department Action: Total number of cases – 5,08,263; number of arrests – 5,42,618; vehicles confiscated – 4,27,689; collection of fine – Rs.8.36 crore.

So, Government is taking all steps speedily. We have today kept the spread of Corona Virus in Tamil Nadu under control on account of the coordinated action of our District Collectors, High Officers of various Departments I have mentioned and Police Officers from day one of the detection of this virus in the State till date. We have tested a large number of people; that is why we are able to identify more number of people with symptoms of the infection. Even as we are conducting tests and identifying more patients, we are giving treatment to those identified. Only then, we can prevent the spread of the infection. Some are levelling a wrong charge that Government has failed to prevent the infections from spreading.

As for Government, it is taking all steps to prevent the spread of the virus infection. Medical experts say that Corona is an infection that spreads easily. If its spread is to be arrested totally, people's co-operation is very, very important.

At this hour, I am duty-bound to express my thanks to the Chief Secretary to Government, Director General of Police, Secretaries of the various Departments, High Officers, Police Department's High Officers, District Collectors, District Superintendents of Police, High Officials, Officers of the various Departments, Doctors, Nurses, Health workers, Sanitary workers, staff of the Departments of Police, Revenue, Local Administration, Co-operation and the staff of many other Departments who have jointly worked with them, for their excellent work from the day of promulgation of the lockdown up to now. Whatever be the orders that the Government passes, it is the officials who implement them. On behalf of the Government, I heartily thank all officers who are carrying out Government orders in an excellent manner and preventing the spread of the infection.

Hon'ble Chief Minister motivates District Collectors and front-line warriors in war against Corona

Valedictory speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami at the review meeting held with District Collectors through video conferencing on 29.05.2020 at the Secretariat *(English Translation)*

District Collectors have comprehensively and clearly mentioned about their respective District's problems. Since it is summer, they should immediately take steps to resolve drinking water problem if it occurs. Hon'ble Amma's Government has declared that 'kudimaramathu' is an excellent scheme and it is being implemented successfully. District Collectors should take steps to complete this year's targets. Likewise, they should take measures for the uninterrupted supply of ration articles to family card holders.

Ways and means should be found for essentials to reach the people residing in Containment Zones directly. Migrant workers desiring to go back to their native States should be helped. But, many industries have re-opened now in Tamil Nadu. You should take steps for workers who wish to continue working here, to do so. A fortnight ago, Migrant Workers would have booked tickets online to go back to their States. Now that industries have opened, you should permit them to continue with their

jobs if they so desire. You need not take into account their having booked online tickets.

As for 100 days work (guarantee) scheme, there can be full scale engagement of workers. For Delta Districts, Mettur Dam will be opened on June 12 for 'kuruvai' cultivation. Hence, dredging works should be hastened. This year, this work has been started early. So, canals in 'kuruvai' cultivation areas should be dredged immediately. District Collectors should pay special attention to this. There should be no hassles in the transportation of construction materials from one State to another. Construction work should go on without any hindrance. Migrant workers coming to Tamil Nadu should be monitored at the State border itself, dispatched to the respective Districts, subjected to tests and admitted to hospital if they test positive. If they test negative, they can be quarantined in their houses itself. If no such facility is available to them, you should admit them in the exclusive hospitals and arrange necessary facilities for them. Our Police Officers should monitor Migrant Workers coming to Tamil Nadu at the State border itself and send them to the respective Districts where they work.

In the Containment Zones, sanitary works should be carried out twice a day; so too the distribution of 'kabasura' water. Distribution of 'kabasura' water should be arranged for people residing in prohibited areas. On confirmation of Corona Virus infection, those in touch directly and indirectly with the infected person should be identified and tested. Arrangements for testing, isolation and the like should be made for workers coming from other States and Districts.

There should be periodical inspection on whether the re-opened industries follow the Government's guidelines. The general public should compulsorily wear face mask when they step out of their houses. While shopping, physical distancing should be followed. On returning home from outside, the hands and feet should be cleaned with soap without fail. Unnecessary outing should be avoided. I affectionately request District Collectors to take the necessary steps to control this virus spread through awareness campaign conducted

with public address system in Municipal Corporations, Municipalities, Town Panchayats and in important Villages.

All the District Collectors have put in their best work in their respective Districts from day one of the enforcement of lockdown. Accepting the suggestions made by the Government, you have acted in a stringent manner to prevent this infection from spreading in the Districts. Barring Chennai, the Virus spread is under control in all other Districts. The infection has been spreading only through persons coming from other States. While testing, the incidence of infection is found to be more in people coming from other States. So, District Collectors should be cautious. If workers or others coming from other States test positive for the infection, they should create an environment for immediate access to treatment for them. Barring Chennai, we have kept the virus under control in other Districts. To maintain this State of control, I request you to follow the Government's guidelines and take action accordingly.

Lockdown order has been issued on 29.05.2020. All the District Collectors should follow this order fully. Relaxation should not bring about differentiation among Districts. I request you to get the permission of the Chief Secretary beforehand for whatever relaxation you wish to bring about, before announcing it.

Disinfectant should be sprayed continuously in the prohibited areas. No one from the prohibited area should be allowed to come out. No one should also be allowed to enter those areas. As I have already mentioned, toilets in those areas should be sanitized often. Workers in industries should observe social distancing. They should be allowed to enter the industrial premises only after getting tested. Toilets there should be cleaned often. The industrial premises should be sanitized with disinfectants both in the morning and in the evening. I request the District Collectors to inspect such implementation now and then.

I am duty-bound to convey my hearty thanks to all the District Collectors who have implemented in an excellent manner the measures announced by the Government for preventing the spread of the Corona Virus and the officials of all the Departments who stood by them. If I am to make a particular mention, I convey my heart-felt appreciation to the Doctors, Nurses and Health Workers who serve with a sense of dedication. Likewise, I wish to convey my thanks on behalf of the Government to the SanitaryWorkers also. I congratulate all the officials who are engaged in this work of preventing the Corona Virus from spreading.

Nandri! Vanakkam!

■

Amma's Residence will be converted as a Memorial

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami on 17.08.2017 had announced that the residence of the former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J Jayalalithaa will be converted as a Memorial and will be opened to the public, in remembrance of her achievements and sacrifices for the people of Tamil Nadu.

In order to implement the announcement made by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, an administrative sanction was given by the Tamil Development and Information Department on 05.10.2017 for acquisition of "Veda Nilayam" located in Poes Garden, Chennai. Action has been initiated to acquire the land and building and preliminary notification was published on 28.06.2019 and thereafter a declaration has also been published on 06.05.2020.

The building of "Veda Nilayam" including the movable items such as furniture, books, jewels, etc., are in a state of disuse for more than three years. So, the Government decided to transfer all the immovable and movable properties to the Government for its upkeep until the acquisition process is complete.

Hence, the Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Banwarilal Purohit has promulgated an Ordinance to temporarily take possession of "Veda Nilayam" and movable items therein to the State Government and to establish 'Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J Jayalalithaa Memorial Foundation' for making long term arrangements to convert 'Veda Nilayam' as a Memorial.

The Foundation will have the Hon'ble Chief Minister as the Chairperson and Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Hon'ble Minister for Information and Publicity, Government officials as Members and the Director of Information and Public Relations as Member Secretary.

The Foundation will take necessary steps to maintain the 'Veda Nilayam' and take necessary steps for the maintenance, upkeep and safety of all movable properties therein.

Hon'ble Chief Minister enlightens on locusts, puts Government machinery on guard in case of harmful attacks

Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami,** regarding the review meeting held on 30.05.2020, on preventing desert locusts from harming crops *(English Translation)*

The Tamil Nadu Government is helping in many ways to protect farmers from loss of crop yields by controlling the insect/pest attacks on Agriculture and Horticulture Crops. The Government has been taking immediate action on insect attack on crops like the ones on maize crop by the fall armyworm, on paddy by gall midges (aanaikomban), on coconut tree by Rugose Spiralling Whitefly (Rugose surul vellai ee) and on tapioca by mealybug (maavu poochi), reduced the crop loss and safeguarded the welfare of farmers.

At present, desert locust swarms have attacked crops in the Northern States. On information that locusts that attacked the North-Western States are found in the fields of Wayanad in Kerala and that locusts are found in the fields of Districts like Krishnagiri, Kanniyakumari and in Udhagamandalam, Scientists from the Agriculture University and officers of the Departments of Agriculture and Horticulture, on Hon'ble Chief Minister's orders, visited the fields and examined them. A review meeting was also conducted in this connection, presided over by the

Hon'ble Chief Minister on 30.05.2020. Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Chief Secretary to Government, Agriculture Production Commissioner and Principal Secretary to Government, Vice Chancellor of Tamil Nadu Agriculture University, Director of Agriculture Department, Director of Horticulture Department and Agricultural Scientists participated. The meeting discussed in detail the chances of desert locusts invading Tamil Nadu and the precautionary and preventive measures to be taken.

Following reports that locusts were found in fields in Wayanad area in Kerala, entomologists from Tamil Nadu Agriculture University undertook on-site inspection in the Tamil Nadu border area of Ooty Kanthal, adjacent to Wayanad and confirmed that locusts found there are not desert locusts but belong to the local varieties. Likewise, on-site inspection confirmed that the locusts found in Neralagiri Village, Veppanpalli Taluk, Krishnagiri District and in Kannanoor area of Kanniyakumari District, are not desert locusts but, only local ones. Since, local variety locusts were there, insecticide was sprayed and the menace controlled on farmers demand.

The desert locust, called schistocerka gregaria, originates in African countries and in the current year it swarmed into Rajasthan after crossing Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan deserts and is causing great destruction in about 33 Districts of the State. As the locust swarm was sighted in the border Districts of Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra States, steps to prevent and control the pest are being taken continuously in those States.

The Locust Warning Organization (LWO), functioning under the Central Agriculture Ministry, is regularly providing information and advisory to all States regarding locust swarms.

The Central Government's advisory issued on 29.05.2020 noted that the desert locust swarm will last till July, move eastward with the possibility of spreading up to Bihar and Odisha and with very less chances of spreading to areas in South India. Since chances of desert locust swarming Tamil Nadu are very less, farmers need not be afraid.

Though, the chances of desert locust invading Tamil Nadu are very less, Hon'ble Chief Minister issued the following advice to Department Officials for undertaking surveillance and precautionary measures:

1. Desert locust movement should be continuously monitored through the Central Government and the Agriculture Departments of the neighbouring States.
2. A special committee, headed by the respective District Collectors and comprising Joint Director of Agriculture, scientists of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Scientists of Agriculture Science Centre, District Revenue Officer, District Forest Officers, District Fire and Rescue Services Officer, Deputy Director of Horticulture, Executive Engineer

(Agriculture Engineering) and Agriculture Assistant Director (Quality Control) should be set up for intensive monitoring of locust attacks and to take appropriate steps in Districts like Thiruvallur, Vellore, Ranipet, Tirupathur, Krishnagiri, Coimbatore, Erode, Tiruppur, the Nilgiris, Theni, Kanniyakumari, Tenkasi and Tirunelveli bordering with neighbouring States.

3. Steps should be taken for storing sufficient stock of recommended bio-insecticides, chemicals and required sprayers for facing immediately any contingency of desert locust invasion despite the precautionary measures of the Government.

4. By chance, if there is a desert locust attack, concerned farmers should adopt the following procedures after consultations with the Agriculture and Horticulture officials in their areas:

✶ By raising noise with drums and tins in fields, locusts can be prevented from settling on the crops.

✶ If the swarm is of the field-size of the farmer, the environment-friendly neem-based insecticide, Azadirachtin should be applied in the first round.

✶ If the swarm is huge, one of the following should be sprayed through sprayers or big tractor mounted sprayers - per hectare Malathion 50 per cent – 1.850 litre; or Malathion 25 per cent, soluble drench powder – 3.7 kg, chlorpyrifos – 20 per cent – 1.2 litre; or lambda cyhalothrin – 5 per cent – 400 ml.

✶ As lambda cyhalothrin is very powerful, a person should not spray it for more than 2 hours.

✶ If the desert locust swarm attack is very extensive, Department Officials have been advised to obtain malathion 96 % insecticide from the Central Government and the Agriculture Department should spray it in a collective way engaging the fire service tender.

Ordinary locusts are a part of the bio-diversity. They survive on weeds and grass. There are many varieties of locusts. The one found in Krishnagiri feeds only on calotropis (erukkanchedi). Similarly, those found in Ooty and in Kanniyakumari District are local varieties. Tamil Nadu has 250 local varieties of locusts. There are some friendly locusts. Among them the long-horned locust should be protected as it eats away harmful insects.

So, farmers need not develop fear, mistaking local variety locust found in agriculture fields in Tamil Nadu for the desert locust. However, if a locust swarm is sighted, Hon'ble Chief Minister has requested farmers to get advice from the nearby Agriculture/ Horticulture Department or Agriculture University/Agriculture Science Centre by informing them. Alternatively, a picture of the locusts can be uploaded in the pests monitoring section of the 'Uzhavan' application (app) and advice got. ■

Shooting for TV serials allowed with conditions

The Film Employees Federation of South India (FEFSI) and the South Indian Small Screen Producers (STEPS) had submitted a memorandum to Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami, requesting the Hon'ble Chief Minister to permit the shooting of television serials as their livelihood had been affected by the lockdown.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister considered their demand sympathetically and agreed to permit the shooting of small screen serials with the following conditions: -

Indoor shooting alone is allowed within houses with compound walls or indoors. But, this is not applicable to containment zones.

Shooting is not allowed in public places. However, there is no bar on shooting in public places in rural areas, except in containment zones.

No onlookers are allowed in the shooting areas.

Disinfectant should be sprayed in studios or houses before and after the shooting.

Except the actors and actresses, all other technicians should wear masks and keep social distance at the time of shooting. The actors and actresses should compulsorily wear masks when they are not before the cameras and during breaks.

All the members of the shooting team should wash their hands with soap or use hand sanitizer at regular intervals.

Vehicles which frequent the shooting spot and are used for transport of technicians and actors should be cleaned with disinfectant. Similarly, all the equipment used for shooting including camera and crane should be cleaned with disinfectant.

Technicians and artistes who have symptoms of cold, cough, breathing trouble and fever should not be allowed inside the shooting arena. They should be immediately sent for medical tests.

The shooting should be conducted with a maximum of 20 technicians including actors and actresses.

For conducting shooting within the Greater Chennai Corporation area, prior permission of the Corporation Commissioner is required and in case of other Districts, permission of the District Collectors of the Districts concerned is required.

The shooting personnel should follow the rules and guidelines issued by the Central and the State Governments now and then.

The small screen producers should ensure that the above rules are meticulously followed and conduct shootings.

Hon'ble Chief Minister requests banks to sanction loans speedily for improving economic situation

Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** at the State-level Bankers Committee meeting held at the Secretariat on 30.05.2020

(English Translation)

Paying obeisance to Hon'ble Amma,

Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister Thiru.O.Panneerselvam who has delivered an address at this meeting, participants in the meeting Hon'ble Minister for Industries Thiru. M.C.Sampath, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture Thiru. R. Doraikkannu, Hon'ble Minister for Rural Industries Thiru.P.Benjamin, Chief Secretary to Government Thiru. K.Shanmugam, High Officers of the Government, Thiru. Karnam Sekar, Managing Director of Indian Overseas Bank, Tmt.Padmaja Chanduru, Managing Director of Indian Bank, Thiru.S.M.N. Swamy, Regional Director of the Reserve Bank of India, Tmt. Padma Raghunathan, Chief General Manager, NABARD, high officials of various other Banks and all officers of the Government who are gracing this meeting – at the outset I offer my respects to all of you.

In this challenging period when the whole world is facing the Corona Pandemic, Hon'ble Amma's Government has been taking many excellent steps in the last 4 months to prevent the Corona infection from spreading and to reduce its impact. As a result of the

excellent medical treatment given, the number of persons fully cured is very high and the mortality is very low in Tamil Nadu.

In this situation, Hon'ble Amma's Government is taking many steps to improve Tamil Nadu's economy. I ordered the setting up of a high-level committee headed by the former Governor of Reserve Bank of India Dr. C. Rangarajan for improving the State's economy. In continuation of this, I deem it my duty to participate in this State-level Bankers committee meeting being held today for improving the livelihood of the people of Tamil Nadu.

As a gesture of your full co-operation with the steps taken by Hon'ble Amma's Government, those of you serving in Tamil Nadu have come in good numbers. I once again offer my thanks to all of you in the first place for your this.

I thank all the Bankers who are attending this SLBC meeting. I need your full-fledged support to the Government of Tamil Nadu for serving the people.

Due to the lockdown, the Country's economy is affected. Industries are in a difficult situation. To meet this challenge, the Central Government and the Tamil Nadu Government are making several efforts and have announced new Schemes. The essential need for many industries at this hour is the help of Banks.

For the past many years, the credit deposit ratio has been more than 100 per cent in Tamil Nadu. This makes it clear that not only industries are coming forward in a larger scale to get loans to start industries in Tamil Nadu but banks too are functioning with focus. At this period, I expect this type of co-operation from you. I am extremely happy over this year's (2020-2021) investment loan plan of Rs.4,21,404 crore. In this plan, the agriculture sector is to get a loan of Rs.1,48,859 crore and Micro and Small Enterprises Rs.92,075 crore. I am confident that the year 2020-2021 will give an impetus to Tamil Nadu's growth.

I propose to discuss three important sectors today.

As there is enough storage of water in Mettur Dam, there is every opportunity to

undertake 'kuruvai' cultivation in full scale. As agricultural production is very essential for the country's economic development, I affectionately request all of you to extend loan facility for agriculture swiftly and give full co-operation to farmers. In Tamil Nadu, 20.20 lakh Kisan credit cards have so far been distributed to farmers alone. Through this card, commercial Banks and Co-operative Societies/ Banks lend up to Rs.1.60 lakh to farmers for purchase of seeds, fertilizers and pesticides. I request you all to conduct special camps in your areas and distribute these credit cards to all farmers.

Recently, Hon'ble Union Minister for Finance announced many new Schemes for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME). In Tamil Nadu, there are 50 lakh MSMEs. About One crore people work in them. MSME's share in Tamil Nadu's GDP is about 30 per cent. It is the duty of all of us to take the Government's special concessional plans to the people fully. At this hour, I request you all to cooperate to get our state a considerable allocation from the Rs. 3 lakh crore additional financial assistance announced by the Central Government. I request you all to give MSME units more loans.

As far as the number of MSMEs is concerned, Tamil Nadu is in the second place in the whole of India. In 2018-2019, new loan facility to the tune of Rs.8,923 crore was given to this sector. The annual growth of loan assistance to this sector is at a very low level of 4 per cent. I request you to raise this percentage in a big way.

The loan assistance to industries in Tamil Nadu through the Central Government's Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme for Micro and Small Enterprises rose from Rs.1,784 crore in 2017-2018 to Rs. 2,543 crore in 2018-2019. To remove the economic impact of Corona Virus, I request that the loan assistance through this scheme should be further increased.

The Tamil Nadu Government is implementing a Rural Startup Scheme with World Bank assistance for developing the Rural Industries in the State and for improving the income of rural people. Under this Scheme, on 28.05.2020 I inaugurated a sum of Rs. 300 crore Corona Special Financial Assistance Fund for developing Rural Industries affected by the Corona Virus infection and for starting new industries.

Women's Self Help Groups play an important role in Tamil Nadu in developing rural economy and removing poverty. To help these groups function well, Hon'ble Amma's Government has designed many schemes and is protecting them by improving their livelihood. In that respect, a target of Rs.15,000 crore was fixed for banks for the year 2019-2020 for providing loans to Women's SHGs and Rs.13,301 crore loan was disbursed. The loan assistance target for the year 2020-2021 has been fixed at Rs.15,000 crore. As a subsidiary target in this, a target of Rs.5,500 crore has been fixed for the women SHGs affected by the lockdown. I request the banks to achieve these targets by January 2021 and create a record.

To convert the best Women SHGs in rural areas into Micro Industries, collateral-free loan

assistance up to Rs.20 lakh through banks has been made possible under the collateral-free credit guarantee fund scheme. I request you all to select the best Women's SHGs under this scheme in a big way, provide loan assistance and help them to start industries and improve their livelihood.

Under the 100-day work guarantee scheme, 35 lakh persons are working in Tamil Nadu. They can collect their wages directly from the banks. But now, due to the Corona Virus pandemic, they find it difficult to go to banks and collect their wages. At this period of time when we are engaged in the Corona Virus prevention work, it will be proper for bank officials to go to the work places of these workers and hand over their wages directly till the virus menace subsides.

I once again express my thanks to all bankers who are helping the growth of many sectors by extending credit.

I place on record my sincere appreciation and gratitude to all the bankers led by Indian Overseas Bank, the Lead Bank for Tamil Nadu, who have contributed immensely to the overall development of Tamil Nadu and I request you to continue the same in a big way during these trying times.

Nandri! Vanakkam! ■

Hon'ble Chief Minister orders permitting TV serial shootings with the more number of persons

Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami on 30.05.2020 *(English Translation)*

Accepting the demands of the Film Employees Federation of South India (FEFSI) and the Society of Television Producers of South India (STEPS), I permitted the shooting for small screen television shows on 21.05.2020.

FEFSI and STEPS office-bearers met the Hon'ble Minister for Information & Publicity and requested enhancement of the number of personnel allowed on a set as it is impossible to conduct shootings with the maximum number of 20 artistes and technicians permitted at present. The Hon'ble Minister for Information & Publicity consulted me on this. Acceding to this demand, order has been issued permitting small screen television serial shootings with a maximum of 60 artistes and technicians from 31.05.2020.

A one-time prior permission should be obtained for the shooting of an entire TV serial from the Greater Chennai Corporation Commissioner in Chennai and from the respective District Collectors in other Districts.

All the participants in the small screen television shooting should follow all the guidelines issued by the Central and State Governments now and then without any lapse. I request small screen serial producers to ensure that all the guidelines are followed when conducting the shootings.

■

Hon'ble Chief Minister calls attention to 'needlessly onerous conditions' attached to additional borrowing limits

Text of the D.O. letter dated 18.05.2020 of **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami,** Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, addressed to **Thiru. Narendra Modi,** Hon'ble Prime Minister of India

"I thank the Prime Minister and the Government of India for having announced the five tranche economic relief package, which I hope will help to revive the Indian economy. The additional allocation for MNREGA and for establishing Infectious Diseases Blocks in District Hospitals and Public Health laboratories at the Block level are very significant measures.

While welcoming this initiative which combines fiscal sustainability with what is required for different sectors, I would like to draw your attention to the needlessly onerous conditions that have been attached to the additional borrowing limits that have been approved for State Governments in Ministry of Finance's Letter F. No.40(06)/PF-S/2017-2018/ Vol V dated 17th May, 2020.

The States sought the additional borrowing limit, beyond 3 per cent of GSDP mainly because of the significant shortfall in revenues due to the lockdown imposed in the wake of the Covid - 19 pandemic. There are also large additional expenditure commitments. These are borrowings by the State Government, which have to be repaid from future tax revenues of the States. They are not grants from the Centre. To attach needlessly demanding conditionalities to the additional borrowing requirements appears to be unreasonable.

Aggressively pushing a reform agenda on which a consensus is yet to be developed at a time when States have approached the Centre for additional borrowing out of sheer desperation, is not in keeping with the spirit of co-operative federalism. Ideally, the proposed reforms ought to have been discussed in detail with the States, a consensus developed depending on the specific conditions in each State and the reforms linked to special Central Covid-19 grants and not to additional borrowing by the State. Linking the Central Government's power under Article 293(3) of the Constitution to permit

additional borrowing by the States to conditionalities, is unprecedented.

In Tamil Nadu's context, while in some of the four major areas of reform required by the Government of India to avail of the additional borrowing, the State Government has already undertaken the reforms without expecting any financial assistance, there are some areas, most specifically in the area of power distribution reforms, which are politically sensitive. These issues have been repeatedly raised by me in communications to the Prime Minister as well. I have raised the issue in the context of the proposed changes in the Electricity Act. Our Government is strongly opposed to the idea of removing the Free Power Supply to farmers. It has been our stand that the mode of disbursement of subsidy should be left to the State Governments themselves. Since a consensus is yet to emerge on these issues, I request you to instruct the concerned Ministries to remove the requirements to reform the power sector from amongst the proposed conditionalities and also to allow greater latitude to States in implementing a reform agenda.

Imposing needlessly onerous conditions on borrowings will constrain the State Governments in finding funds to meet essential expenditure in the wake of a serious financial situation. I am confident you will appreciate and understand the difficulties that States face at this time and instruct that the necessary changes be made to the relevant guidelines."

News in Picture

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami** called on Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu, **Thiru.Banwarilal Purohit** at Raj Bhavan on 02.06.2020, and explained to him the steps being taken by various Departments of the Tamil Nadu Government to control the Corona Virus in the State.

Memorial Pillar for musical savant Nallappaswami at Vilathikulam

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami at the Secretariat on 01.06.2020, declared open through video conferencing, a Memorial Pillar for musical savant Nallappaswami, built at a cost of Rs.20 lakh at Vilathikulam in Thoothukudi District, on behalf of the Information and Public Relations Department. On the same occasion, the Hon'ble Chief Minister laid the foundation stone for construction of 1,000 houses for Film Employees Federation of South India in the first phase, at Paiyanur in Chengalpattu District.

A descendant of Veerapandiya Kattabomman, the musical savant Nallappaswami was a guru of the singing star, Thiru. Thyagaraja Bhagavathar and had been kept under house arrest during the freedom struggle, by the British Government. He was famous for his grand exposition of Kharaharapriya raga and is said to have suggested various ragas to Mahakavi Bharathiyar for his poetical verses. He was honoured with many titles and awards and dedicated his entire life for Music. To honour the great Musician, the Information and Public Relations Department, in its policy note of 2018-2019, announced that the Tamil Nadu

Government would instal a Memorial Pillar for the musical savant revered by musicians and vidwans as Isai Mahasamudram and Isai Medhai, at his birth place Vilathikulam in Thoothukudi District, at a cost of Rs. 20 lakh.

As per the announcement, the Memorial Pillar for Nallappaswami was declared open by Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami the former's birth place in Vilathikulam in Thoothukudi District, at a cost of Rs. 20 lakh.

On behalf of the Tamil Nadu Government, 50 acres of land had been allotted to members of the Film Employees Federation of South India at Paiyanur in Chengalpattu District. It has been decided to construct 6,000 houses there on behalf of the South Indian film Employees Federation. In the first phase, foundation stone for 1,000 houses was laid by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu at the Secretariat through video conferencing.

On 26.08.2018 at the inauguration ceremony of MGR Centenary Film Shooting Floor, at Paiyanur in Chengalpattu District, the Hon'ble Chief Minister announced that to construct a shooting floor in the name of Hon'ble Amma, Rs. 5 crore will be sanctioned by the Tamil Nadu Government. As per the announcement, the Tamil Nadu Government in the first phase handed over a cheque for Rs.1 crore to the President of the South Indian Film Employees Federation Thiru. Selvamani on 16.09.2019. The Hon'ble Chief Minister handed the second instalment of Rs. 50 lakh to Thiru. Selvamani on 01.06.2020. ■

Buildings for Revenue Department opened

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami, at the Secretariat on 01.06.2020, declared open Tahsildar Office buildings and quarters, built at Vembakkam and Jamunamarathur Taluks in Tiruvannamalai District, Sub-Collector's quarters, in Ariyalur Division and Revenue Divisional Officers Building in Chennai South Division at Guindy, Chennai District, all built at a cost of Rs.8.75 crore on behalf of the Revenue and Disaster Management Department.

As per the motto of the State Government 'Go and Serve the People Directly', the Revenue and Disaster Management Department serves as a bridge between the people and the Government. For this Department, the Tamil Nadu Government, treading the path of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, has been implementing various Schemes, which include formation of new Revenue Divisions, constructing Own office buildings for the Department with all facilities and providing Housing quarters for employees.

In this connection, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu declared open Office buildings and quarters for Tahsildar at Vembakkam and Jamunamarathur Taluks in Tiruvannamalai District, at a cost of Rs.6.20 crore; Sub-Collector's quarters at Ariyalur in Ariyalur District, at a cost of Rs.79.5 crore and in Revenue Divisional Officers Buildings in Chennai South Division at Guindy Chennai District, at a cost of Rs. 1.75 crore.

Totally, buildings for Revenue Department, all constructed at a cost of Rs.8.75 crore were declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

The Survey and Settlement Department is undertaking the survey and maintenance of land records, land ownership and changes in the ownership of lands. To carry out these tasks without any interruption, vacancies in the Department are filled up whenever they arise. As part of this, 8 vacancies, namely Surveyor, Draftsmen and Junior Assistant have been filled based on compassionate grounds. As a token of handing over the appointment order, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over the orders to 4 beneficiaries at the Secretariat on 01.06.2020.

Hon'ble Chief Minister lays foundation stone for Rs.500 crore Smart Data Centre

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.Edappadi K.Palaniswami laid the foundation stone, on behalf of the Department of Information Technology, at the Secretariat on 19.05.2020, for a Smart Data Centre, to be constructed at a cost of Rs.500 crore at the Siruseri SIPCOT Industrial Park, Chengalpattu District, through the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).

Tamil Nadu remains the best suited place for attracting investments from Information and Communication Technology Enterprises due to its geographical location, human resources and infrastructure facilities that can match this fast developing technology.

NPCI is an organization that has been set up according to the guidelines of the Reserve Bank of India and the Association of Indian Banks. It deals with all types of money transactions - from retail to resolution of money matters among banks. NPCI handles roughly 400 crore transactions every month whose total economic value is about Rs.15 lakh crore. It is one of the largest transaction centres at the global level.

The Smart Data Centre with an eight-layer safety infrastructure facility is to be set up on global standards through this institution. This Data Centre will help meet the fast developing IT challenges. This will be the first four-star Data Centre in Chennai city. This Data Centre will help all digital efforts taken to achieve the Digital India concept. It will be an eco-friendly construction. It will be set up on the IoT (Internet of Things) technology basis, will have uninterrupted power supply and will be capable of meeting the challenges posed by natural disasters like cyclone, earthquake and tsunami.

Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurates flats, developed plots at total cost of Rs. 299.28 crore

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.Edappadi K.Palaniswami, at the Secretariat on 28.05.2020, on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board under the Housing Urban Development Department, declared open 480 multi-storeyed tenements at Puthiya Parakkinkal Colony in Anjugramam, Agastheeswaram Division in Kanniyakumari District, constructed at a cost of Rs.36.24 crore through video conferencing. In addition, the Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated 560 multi-storeyed tenements, built at a cost of Rs.46.68 crore, in Thanjavur, Ariyalur and Chennai Districts and 1,232 multi-storeyed tenements and 1,314 plot development schemes, costing Rs.216.36 crore at Chennai, Erode and Tiruchirapalli Districts.

Taking into consideration, the growing population and urban areas, the Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's Government, through the Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board, has been implementing various Welfare Schemes in slum areas in the cities with a view to meet the housing needs of poor and the downtrodden people, to improve their livelihood, who are living without any basic amenities.

As a part of this, on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board, at Puthiya Parakkinkal Colony in Anjugramam in Agatheeswaram Division in Kanniyakumari District, the Hon'ble Chief Minisiter declared open 480 multi-storeyed tenements, built at a cost of Rs. 36.24 crore from the Secretariat through video conferencing.

In Thanjavur District in Pattukottai Division 240 multi-storeyed flats, constructed at a cost of Rs. 20.11 crore under the Maharaja Samudram Scheme;

288 multi-storeyed tenements built at a cost of Rs 23.43 crore in Kurumban Chavadi scheme area in Ariyalur Division in Ariyalur District;

In Tiruvottiyur Division in Chennai District 32 multi-storeyed tenements constructed at a cost of Rs. 3.14 crore under the Dhobikhana Scheme II;

At Barakka Road in Purasavakkam in Chennai Division, multi-storeyed flats on rental basis for 160 Board employees constructed at a cost of Rs. 74.21 crore; 1,072 multi-storeyed flats, under the slum clearance project, in Pudumai Colony in Periyar Nagar in Erode Division in Erode District and 1,314 plots, developed with all infrastructure at a cost of Rs. 35.82 crore under the Navalpattu Scheme in Tiruverambur Division in Tiruchirapalli District.

Totally, flats and developed plots, costing Rs. 299.28 crore were declared open by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami through video conferencing.

News in Picture

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami** inaugurated 47 completed schemes, valued at Rs. 26.23 crore at a Government function in Salem on 11.06.2020, on behalf of the Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department, Agriculture Department, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, Health and Family Welfare Department, School Education Department and Animal Husbandry Department. Hon'ble Chief Minister also laid the foundation stone for 35 new schemes to be executed, at a total cost of Rs. 286.15 crore, on behalf of Justice Department, Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department, Agriculture Department, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, Health and Family Welfare Department, School Education Department, Labour and Employment Department and Registration Department.

Hon'ble Chief Minister initiates civil works for Rs. 230 crore renovation of Noyyal river system

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.Edappadi K.Palaniswami, at the Secretariat on 28.05.2020, on behalf of the Water Resources Department of the PWD, laid the foundation stone through video conferencing, for Rs.230 crore worth of civil works on the Noyyar River that passes through Coimbatore, Tiruppur, Erode and Karur Districts. The works include expansion, renovation and modernization of the Noyyal river system from 0.0.km (starting point) to 158.35 km. The Hon'ble Chief Minister on the occasion also declared open schemes that were executed at a cost of Rs.16.58 crore and laid the foundation stones for scheme works, to be executed at a cost of Rs. 17.01 crore.

The Tamil Nadu Government, treading the path of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma for the economic growth of the country, has been implementing a number of Irrigation Management Schemes, with a view to developing agriculture, meeting the drinking water needs of the people and making judicious use of the available water by storing the water and creating new water sources.

In this connection, the Hon'ble Chief Minister laid the foundation stone through video conferencing, for renovation, expansion and modernization of dams, rivers and canals on the Noyyal River that passes through Coimbatore, Tiruppur, Erode and Karur Districts from the starting point to 158.35 km at a cost of Rs. 230 crore.

By executing the scheme, apart from streamlining of the river, 18 dams, 22 system tanks, dilapidated dams, surplus weirs, sluices on the supply channels are to be repaired, streams on the river are to be desilted, renovated

and modernized. Check dams are to be created on the streams in the river, the banks of the canals are to strengthened and the de-silting of the river is to be undertaken. Due to these works, about 7,000 acres of agricultural lands directly and 11,000 acres of agricultural lands indirectly will benefit.

In Tiruvannamalai District in Thellur Village in Arani Division, a check dam across Cheyyaru at a cost of Rs. 5.64 crore;

In Tiruppattur District at Chinnarampatti Village in Tiruppattur Division, a check dam across Pamparu at a cost of Rs. 2.48 crore;

In Vellore District in Karungali Village in Anaicut Division, a check dam across Agaram River at a cost of Rs. 5 crore.

At Dindigul District in Mamaniyur - Kombaripatti Village, in Vedachandur division, a check dam across Kannimar Odai, at cost of Rs. 1.92 crore and at Amandakadavu Village P.No.135 in Udumalpet Division in Tiruppur District, a check dam across Upparu Odai at a cost of Rs. 1.52 crore.

Totally, completed schemes worth Rs.16.56 crore were declared open by Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami.

Renovation of Sellur Dam across Vettaru River at 102.17 km in Kandiyur Village in Valangaiman Division in Tiruvarur District at a cost of Rs. 1.35 crore;

Renovation of Mathur Padugai across Vettaru River at 95.63 km in Amaravathi Village in Valangaiman division in Tiruvarur at a cost of Rs. 1.35 crore;

Renovation of Uthukadu water regulator across Vettaru River (53/3 – 4) at Uthukadu Village in Valangaiman Division in Tiruvarur District at a cost of Rs.2.91 crore;

Check Dam across at Palaru at Balasamudram Village in Palani Division in Dindigul District at a cost of Rs. 3.54 crore;

At R.Kombai Village in Vedachandur Division in Dindigul District, a dam across Thoppaiyasami River and supply channel to provide water to Vadugampatti Periyakulam and 9 other tanks at a cost of Rs. 5.91 crore;

In Pichanur Village in Madukkarai Division in Coimbatore District a check dam across Kumuttipathi River at K.S. No. 696 at a cost of Rs. 75 lakh and a check dam across Manjupallam near ACC Cement factory, Madukkarai Market in Madukkarai Village in Coimbatore District at a cost of Rs. 1.20 crore.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister laid the foundation stone for above Schemes worth Rs. 17.01 crore at the Secretariat on 28.05.2020.

Government of Tamil Nadu

Corona Virus

COVID-19

What is Corona?

It is a fast spreading virus infection

Important symptoms of infection	Following symptoms too can occur

The way Corona Virus infection spreads

By touching articles that have droplets expelled while coughing and sneezing. The infection can spread from one person to 406 persons in a month

Prevention measures for the disease

General

- Clean the hands thoroughly with soap often
  - ★ Once in two hours
  - ★ After coughing and sneezing
  - ★ Before and after cooking food
  - ★ Before and after taking food
  - ★ After using the toilet
  - ★ After handling pets

Don't be Fearful, take Precautions to Safeguard your Health

★ After touching waste

★ When hands are dirty and with stains

★ While taking care of persons with symptoms of infection

- Close mouth and nose with kerchief while coughing and sneezing.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth.
- Persons with fever, cough and phlegm should totally avoid going to places where people gather and participating in festivals.
- Persons going to shop for essential articles, should, besides wearing face mask, avoid interacting with others and observe 3 ft. social distancing norm.

At Home

- Always keep the house clean by mopping the floor with bleaching powder mixed with water in the ratio of 10 gm. powder to one litre of water.
- Door handle, staircase railing, lift button and the surface of table should be kept clean by mopping with disinfectants.

Increasing Immunity

- Walking and exercise to be undertaken
- Intake of fruits and vegetables
- Take milk, buttermilk and tender coconut
- Steam Inhalation
- Warm milk mixed a little with turmeric, pepper and palm rock candy (panan karkandu) can be taken

Don't Feel Anxious over Corona Virus Infection.
At the same time, act very carefully.

- Stand in sunlight for 15 – 20 minutes in your house itself (before 10 a.m., after 4 p.m.).
- Gargle warm water with crystal salt and turmeric powder, 2 to 3 times a day.
- Take 'kabasura' water that has 15 herbs like dry ginger, 'thippili' and 'aadaathodaa'. A tea spoon of 'kabasura' powder should be mixed in 240 ml. of water, boiled well till reduced to 60 ml. and can be taken once a day before food (for children 30 ml., for adults 60 ml.) Along with it, vitamin and zinc tablets can be taken on doctor's advice.

Persons with prolonged illness

- Aged people in the house, pregnant women, children, persons with low immunity and those with prolonged illness should not go out but remain separately.
- Diabetics and persons with high blood pressure, severe breathing difficulties, tuberculosis, heart ailments, renal and cancer patients should continue to take medicines recommended by the doctor.

Corona Home Monitoring Kit

- A medical kit with thermometer
- Pulse Oximeter
- Gloves
- Hand sanitizer and like articles should be in the house

Wear Face Mask, Observe Social Distancing Norm

Things to be monitored daily

- Keep carefull watch over body condition every morning and evening
- Body temperature should be less than 100°F
- Pulse rate between 70 and 100
- Breathing should be 16-18 times a minute on an average
- Oxygen in blood should be 95 to 100 per cent

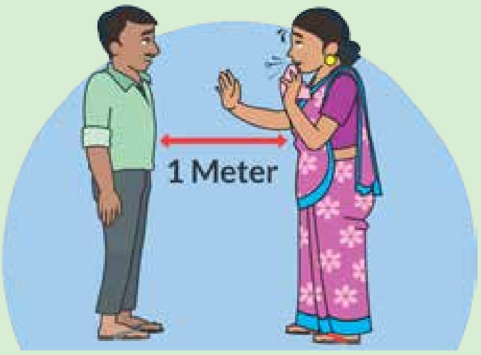
If the above indices are high or less, a medical test should be immediately undertaken.

Home Quarantine

Quarantine is not to abandon you; it is for the safety of your family.

- Home quarantine is to isolate yourself in a separate room and follow some procedures.
- Isolating oneself at home, is to prevent the virus from spreading to members of the family and others.
- A person who has returned from abroad or from other State or had been with a person who has tested positive to the Corona infection should isolate himself in the house.

Procedures to be adopted by home quarantined persons

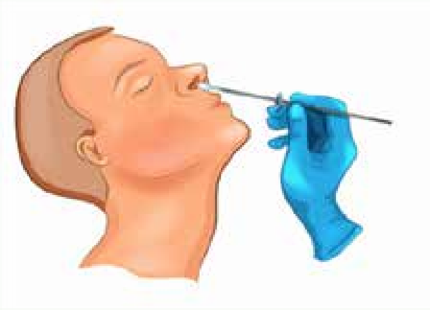


- A well ventilated room and a separate toilet should be set apart for the person isolated.
- One particular person alone should attend on the isolated person.
- All household members should adopt individual distancing norm.
- All the members of the house should continuously wear 3-layer face mask; the mask should be changed after 8 hours use or after wetness starts.

Avoid Purchasing and Consuming Medicines from Pharmacy Without Doctor's Advice

- Articles used by the quarantined person should not be used by others. those in close touch with the person should also be isolated.
- Clothes, bedspreads etc., of the quarantined person should be soaked in soap water by a person wearing face mask and gloves, and washed and dried in the sun. While washing, the clothes should not be shaken.
- The isolated person's room and things like table, handle and door latches that are often touched, should be cleansed with disinfectants at least thrice a day.
- After removing face mask and gloves, hands should be cleaned with soap.
- If the quarantined person develops fever, phlegm, cough and breathing difficulties, nearby hospital can be contacted and advice received.

Testing procedures and centres



- If Corona symptoms are found, one should get tested in Government Hospitals/ approved Private Hospitals / Private laboratories.
- Through RT-PCR test, phlegm samples should be taken from mouth, throat through nose and tested for Corona Virus infection.
- Results of the test will be known in one or two days.
- Even if tested negative, one should isolate oneself continuously for 7 days and monitor whether symptoms do exhibit.
- If there is no infection, one can continue one's works.
- If infection symptoms are found, approach Government Hospital immediately.

**It is not our intention to Isolate you;
Our intention is to take care of you.**

Psychiatric counselling for the Isolated

- Most of the persons affected by Corona get cured and return home.
- Read books you like; listen to soothing music.
- Do meditation, yoga, exercise, take complete rest.
- Playing music instruments will lessen your depression.
- Avoid internet search for anything that will increase mental pressure.
- Engage in healthy recreations like painting and poetry.
- Have phone/cell conversations with friends and relatives.

In the hospital

- Medicine, tablets and protein rich food given in hospital should be taken
- Follow doctor's advice.

COVID -19 Testing Centre

Approved Government and Private Laboratories

Ariyalur	
Names of Government Institutes	
1	Govt. District Head Quarters Hospital, Ariyalur
Chengalpattu	
Names of Government Institutes	
1	Chengalpattu Govt. Medical College
Names of Private Institutes	
1	Chettinad Hospital and Research Institute, Chengalpattu
2	Karpaga Vinayaga Institute of Medical Sciences, Chengalpattu

Chennai	
Names of Government Institutes	
1	King Institute of Preventive Medicine & Research, Guindy
2	Madras Medical College, Chennai
3	Stanley Medical College, Chennai
4	Govt. Kilpauk Medical College, Chennai
5	National Institute for Research in Tuberculosis, Chennai
6	State Public Health Laboratory, Teynampet
7	National Institute of Epidemiology, Chennai
8	Dr. MGR Medical University, Guindy

9	Dr. ALM PG Institute of Basic Medical Sciences, Chennai
10	Govt. Medical College & Hospital, Omandurar Govt. Estate
11	Central Leather Research Institute, Adyar
12	C.D. Hospita
13	Govt. Hospital of Thoracic Medicine
Names of Private Institutes	
1	Apollo Hospitals, Chennai
2	Neuberg Ehrlich Lab, Royapettah
3	Sri Ramachandra Medical College & Research Institute, Porur
4	YRG CARE, Taramani
5	Hitech Diagnostic Centre, Poonamallee
6	Medall Healthcare Pvt. Ltd., Guindy
7	Metropolis Healthcare Limited, Nungambakkam
8	Dr. Rela Institute & Medical Centre, Chromepet
9	MIOT Hospitals, Manapakkam.
10	Madras Medical Mission Clinical Lab Services, Mogappair East
11	Premier Health Centre, Purasawalkam
12	V.R.R.Diagnostic Services Private Limited, T. Nagar
13	Life Cell International Pvt. Ltd., Vandalur-Kelambakkam Main Road
14	Sundaram Medical Foundation, Anna Nagar
15	VHS Lab Services, VHS Hospital, Taramani
16	Central Laboratory, Sree Balaji Medical College and Hospital
17	Aarthi Scans and Labs, Vadapalani
18	Anderson Diagnostics and Labs
19	Balaji Medical Centre

20	PrimeGen Healthcare Laboratories Pvt. Ltd. Nanganallur
21	Suriyaa Diagnostics, Broadway main road
Coimbatore	
Names of Government Institutes	
1	Coimbatore Govt. Medical College
2	Govt. Medical College & ESIC Hospital
Names of Private Institutes	
1	Microbiology Lab, Veerakeralam Road
2	PSG Hospitals Diagnostic Centre, Avinashi Road, Peelamedu
3	Kovai Heart Foundation
4	Bioline Laboratory
5	Royal Care Super Speciality Hospital
6	Orbito Asia Diagnostics Puliakulam
7	Krsnaa Diagnostics Pvt. Ltd.,
Cuddalore	
Names of Government Institutes	
1	Rajah Muthiah Medical College, Chidambaram
Dharmapuri	
Names of Government Institutes	
1	Govt. Dharmapuri Medical College
Dindigul	
Names of Government Institutes	
1	Govt. Headquarters Hospital, Dindigul
Erode	
Names of Government Institutes	
1	Perundurai Medical College, Perundurai
Kallakurichi	
Names of Government Institutes	
1	Government Kallakurichi Hospital

Kancheepuram	
Names of Government Institutes	
1	Govt. Medical College, Chengalpattu
Names of Private Institutes	
1	Nu-Med Labs
Kanniyakumari	
Names of Government Institutes	
1	Govt. Medical College, Nagercoil
Names of Private Institutes	
1	Vivek Laboratories
Karur	
Names of Government Institutes	
1	Government Medical College, Karur
Krishnagiri	
Names of Government Institutes	
1	Institute of Vector Control & Zoonoses, Hosur
Madurai	
Names of Government Institutes	
1	Govt. Medical College, Madurai
Names of Private Institutes	
1	Meenakshi Mission Hospital and Research Centre
2	Apollo Speciality Hospitals
3	Velammal Medical College hospital & RI
Nagapattinam	
Names of Government Institutes	
1	Govt. District Head Quarters Hospital, Nagapattinam
Namakkal	
Names of Government Institutes	
1	Govt. District Head Quarters Hospital, Namakkal

Perambalur	
Names of Government Institutes	
1	Govt. Head Quaters Hospital, Perambalur
Pudukkottai	
Names of Government Institutes	
1	Government Medical College & Hospital, Pudukkottai
Ramanathapuram	
Names of Government Institutes	
1	Government District Headquarters Hospital, Ramanathapuram
Ranipettai	
Names of Government Institutes	
1	Govt. Medical College, Vellore
Salem	
Names of Government Institutes	
1	Mohan Kumaramangalam Govt. Medical College, Salem
Sivagangai	
Names of Government Institutes	
1	Govt. Medical College, Sivagangai
Tenkasi	
Names of Government Institutes	
1	Govt. Medical College, Tirunelveli
Thanjavur	
Names of Government Institutes	
1	Govt. Medical College, Thanjavur
Theni	
Names of Government Institutes	
1	Govt. Medical College, Theni

The Nilgiris

	Names of Government Institutes
1	Pasteur Institute of India, Coonoor

Tiruchirappalli

	Names of Government Institutes
1	K.A.P. Viswanatham Government Medical College, Tiruchirappalli

	Names of Private Institutes
1	Doctors Diagnostic Centre, Puthur Main Road

Tirunelveli

	Names of Government Institutes
1	Govt. Medical College, Tirunelveli

	Names of Private Institutes
1	Aarthi Scans and Labs, Vannarpet

Tirupathur

	Names of Government Institutes
1	Govt. Medical College, Vellore

Tiruppur

	Names of Government Institutes
1	Govt. District Head Quarters Hospital Tiruppur

Thiruvallur

	Names of Government Institutes
1	Govt. District Head Quarters Hospital, Thiruvallur.

Tiruvarur

	Names of Government Institutes
1	Govt. Medical College, Tiruvarur

Tiruvannamalai

	Names of Government Institutes
1	Govt. Medical College & Hospital, Tiruvannamalai

Thoothukudi

	Names of Government Institutes
1	Govt. Medical College, Thoothukudi

Vellore

	Names of Government Institutes
1	Govt. Medical College, Vellore

	Names of Private Institutes
1	Dept. of Clinical Virology, CMC,

Villupuram

	Names of Government Institutes
1	Govt. Medical College, Villupuram

Virudhunagar

	Names of Government Institutes
1	Government Medical College, Virudhunagar

We fight the battle for you,
You need not worry?
Let us observe restrictions,
Let us conquer Corona

Wrong information about Corona Virus

Myth	Correct/Wrong
● A humid weather prevents Corona Virus spread	✗
● Hot water bath prevents Corona Virus disease	✗
● Holding breath for 10 seconds reveals whether there is a Corona attack	✗
● Taking garlic prevents Corona Virus infection	✗
● Things like 'hair dryer' and 'ultra violet' lamp kill Corona Virus	✗
● Pneumonia vaccine can prevent Corona Virus	✗
● Through 'thermal scanner' Corona Virus can be detected	✗
● Only the aged are affected by Corona Virus	✗ it attacks all age-groups

CALL US, WE ARE READY TO HELP

Rural civic infrastructure costing Rs. 330.96 crore opened in Districts

Theni District's Palanichettipatti gets Rs. 34.67 crore underground drainage

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami, at the Secretariat on 28.05.2020, declared open the Underground Drainage System at Palanichettipatti Town Panchayat in Theni District, executed at a cost of Rs. 34.67 crore, through video conferencing on behalf of the TWAD Board, working under the Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also inaugurated various completed works, valued at Rs. 296.29 crore in Chennai, Ariyalur, Thanjavur, Erode, Theni, Cuddalore, Dindigul, Sivagangai, Madurai, Nagapattinam, Tiruvarur, Dharmapuri and Ranipet Districts.

The prime duty of the local bodies is to improve basic infrastructure, provide protected drinking water supply and health facilities to people. The Tamil Nadu Government, treading on the path of the Hon'ble Amma has been executing various schemes to improve the infrastructure of the local bodies, besides meeting the drinking water needs of the people.

As a part of this, the Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board completed the underground drainage system at Palanichettipatti Town Panchayat at a cost of Rs. 34.67 crore and the same was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

A Improvement of Water Supply Distribution System for the Patlur and 30 cluster houses in Ammapettai Panchayat Union in Erode District, at a cost of Rs.6.21 crore;

Improvement of Water Supply Distribution System for Aranmanaipudur and 4 tenements, at a cost of Rs. 1.67 crore; for Kodankipatti and 3 colonies under the Bodinaickanur Panchayat Union, at a cost of Rs. 93 lakh and for Manjanaickenpatti and 2 tenements in Bodinaickanur Panchayat Union at a cost of Rs. 98 lakh;

A Combined Water Supply Scheme for 20 Rural Habitations in Vadamadurai Panchayat Union using the water allotted for the Natham Combined Water Supply Scheme, at a cost of Rs. 3.62 crore and a Combined Water Supply Scheme by improving the existing Varadanallur Drinking Water Scheme for the 54 tenements in Mylampadi Panchayat in Bhavani Panchayat Union in Erode District, at a cost of Rs. 5.25 crore;

A completed underground drainage scheme for the remaining areas of the Ariyalur Municipality in Ariyalur District at a cost of Rs.30.93 crore and in Chidambaram Municipality in Cuddalore District, a completed underground drainage scheme, at a cost of Rs. 75.62 crore;

On behalf of the Municipal Administration, Municipality building in the Weekly Market complex on the Virudhachalam Road for the Jayamkondan Municipality at a cost of Rs.2.10 crore, a Corporation office building on the Gandhiji Road in Thanjavur Corporation at a cost of Rs. 6.50 crore and a building for the patients helpers in Thanjavur Medical College Complex, built at a cost of Rs. 1 crore; at Ganesapuram in Karaikudi Municipality housing colony for conservancy workers at a cost of Rs. 2.30 crore and patients helpers rest hall at a cost of Rs. 70 lakh;

Expanded Water Supply Distribution Scheme for Kottivakkam, Palavakkam, Perungudi and Mugalivakkam areas in Greater Chennai Corporation at a cost of Rs. 126.39 crore by the Chennai Metropolitan Water supply and Sewerage Board;

On behalf of the Greater Chennai Corporation, 2 Urban Primary Health Centres, one each at Mallikapuram in Tiruvottiyur Division and Velacheri in Adyar Division at a total cost of Rs. 1.76 crore and 2 Urban Social Welfare Hospital one each at Tiruvottiyur Highway in Tiruvottiyur Division and Injambakkam in Sholinganallur, totally costing Rs. 21.53 crore;

On behalf of Town Panchayat Department, a weekly market building at Pallathur Town Panchayat in Sivagangai District, at a cost of Rs.1.22 crore, in Palamedu Panchayat in Madurai District at a cost of Rs.1 crore, a renovated bus stand at Papanasam Town Panchayat in Thanjavur District at cost of Rs. 90 lakh; quarters constructed at a cost of Rs.78 lakh for conservancy workers at Kuthalam Town Panchayat in Nagapattinam District, a shandy building at a cost of Rs.1 crore at Vaitheeswaran Koil Town Panchayat; renovated bus stand at Kudavasal in Tiruvarur District at a cost of Rs.1.90 crore; weekly market building, built at a cost of Rs. 1 crore at Karimangalam Town Panchayat in Dharmapuri District and in Kaveripakkam Town Panchayat in Ranipet District a market building constructed at a cost of Rs. 1 crore.

Schemes, totally costing Rs.330.96 crore, were declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on behalf of the Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department. ■

Hon'ble Chief Minister orders measures to protect tapioca crop from Mealybug

Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami on 29.05.2020
(English Translation)

Hon'ble Amma's Government has been helping farmers in various ways to control pest attacks on agricultural and horticultural crops and protect the farmers from crop loss. In continuation of these measures, I have issued orders sanctioning Rs. 54.46 lakh for plant protection measures to protect the tapioca crops, planted in large areas in Namakkal, Salem, Erode and Kanniyakumari Districts, from Mealybug attack.

On an average, about 1 lakh hectares are brought under tapioca cultivation in a year in the State. In the current year it has been found that crops in Namakkal, Salem, Erode and Kanniyakumari Districts, were subjected to a new Mealybug attack. The bug, which caused heavy loss in African countries, spread through planting stakes. The pest attack is now more pronounced due to intense summer. Immediately after knowing of the bug attack, I directed the Horticulture Department officials and the scientists of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University to visit the affected fields and undertake sufficient crop protection measures.

As per my directive, Horticulture Extension Workers conducted field visits and found that till 27.05.2020, crops in about 3,112 hectares had been affected by the pest.

As this pest sucks the juice from all parts of the crop, the growth of the tender leaves of the crop is heavily affected. The tender leaves of the crop curl together heavily affecting the growth of the tapioca tuber.

To reduce the attack, I have directed the Department officials to undertake the following Integrated Plant Protection measures.

1. To reduce the impact, sufficient watering of crops should be ensured.
2. As the crop's tip portion is heavily affected, it should be removed and burnt to control the pests.
3. If the plant materials are purchased from other Districts or States, they should be dipped in Chlorpyrifos solution for, at least for 10 minutes before planting.
4. The same medicines or the combination of two or more medicines should not be used continuously.
5. Plant materials should not be selected from affected crops.

I have directed the Horticulture Department officials to pass on the above integrated plant protection measures either directly or through news releases or by conducting Village-level awareness campaign.

To control the bugs, two months after planting, Azadirachtin should be sprayed and then, at the the second time, Profenofos or Thiamethoxam should be sprayed. For purchasing these medicines, I have sanctioned Rs. 54.46 lakh for controlling the affected crops in 3,112 hectares at Rs. 1,750 per hectare.

News in Picture

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami**, at Salem on 11.06.2020, on behalf of the Highways and Minor Ports Department and under New Service Scheme, declared open a 5.01 km- long two-tier flyover from Kurangu Chavadi to Anna Park via New Bus stand, as the second phase of the project constructed at a cost Rs. 441 crore on the Varanasi- Kanniyakumari Highway in Salem Corporation. Hon'ble Chief Minister also inaugurated a railway overbridge near Leigh Bazaar, built at a cost of Rs 42.14 crore.

Calling SC, ST individuals to avail themselves of loans up to Rs. 7.50 lakh to start enterprises

The Tamil Nadu Adi Dravidar Housing and Development Corporation (TAHDCO) is extending loan up to Rs. 7,50,000 to individuals of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes with 30 per cent subsidy, to start any enterprises. At present, application through paper for the TAHDCO loan has been dispensed with and the eligible candidates have to apply online only. This message has not reached a majority of SC/ST persons. Moreover, many eligible persons do not know how to apply for the loan and so miss out on applying for it.

Guidelines for applying for TAHDCO loan and the required documents:

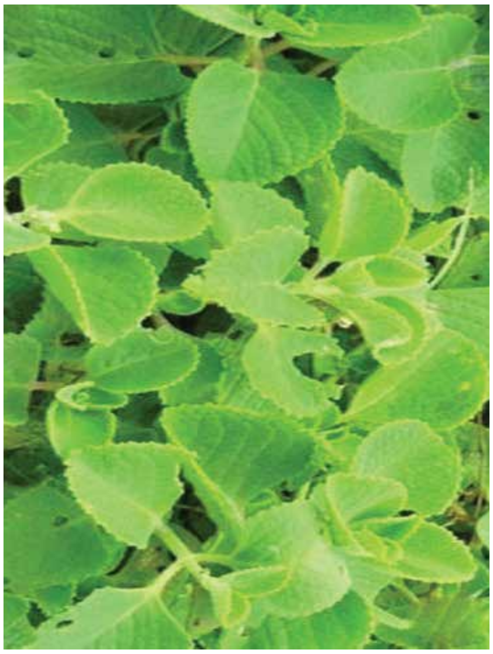
Family Ration Card, Election ID Card, Aadhaar Card, One photograph, Income Certificate (family annual income should not exceed Rs. 1 lakh), Education Qualification Certificate; Driving License, Badge, necessary for those who apply for vehicle loan; Quotation and Project Estimate and Report.

All necessary columns in the application should be filled and documents should be scanned and uploaded.

Eligible SC/ST candidates are requested to apply and make use of the facility.

Internet Portal address for application: http://application.tahdco.com/.

Karpooravalli Health Benefits



1. The tea made by adding Karpooravalli leaves can be very beneficial in controlling cough. It also regulates the digestion and prevents constipation. karpooravalli juice is edible.
2. Use of Karpooravalli seeds and leaves can solve the problem of irregularity in menstrual cycle. It also controls heavy and painful menstruation.
3. Karpooravalli seeds are the oldest remedy to cure stomach pain in infants. It also controls the gastric problem in kids. Karpooravalli recipes are prepared.
4. How to use Karpooravalli for cold - Boil Karpooravalli leaves along with tulsi leaves in water and after cooling add a table spoon of honey in the decoction. This is the best remedy to control prolonged dry cough.
5. The itching and irritation of scalp can be reduced by applying paste of ajwain leaves on the affected area.

Ordinance enacted amending APMA Act to enable farmers sell their produce freely

Press Release regarding the promulgation of an ordinance by the Tamil Nadu Government, amending the Tamil Nadu Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Act 1987, to bring reforms and enable farmers sell their produce as they choose on 02.06.2020.*(English Translation)*

As per the directive of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, the Tamil Nadu Government brought reforms in Agricultural Marketing in February 2017, which include permission for digital marketing, issue of State-level integrated single license to ease the difficulties of farmers and single-point marketing fees.

In addition to these reforms, taking farmers welfare into consideration, the State Government decided to announce additional reforms by amending the Tamil Nadu Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Act, 1987, through an ordinance.

This ordinance allows farmers in the State to sell their produce in any of the Regulated Markets in Tamil Nadu, to market their produce in recognized private markets, recognized godowns and refrigerated centres.

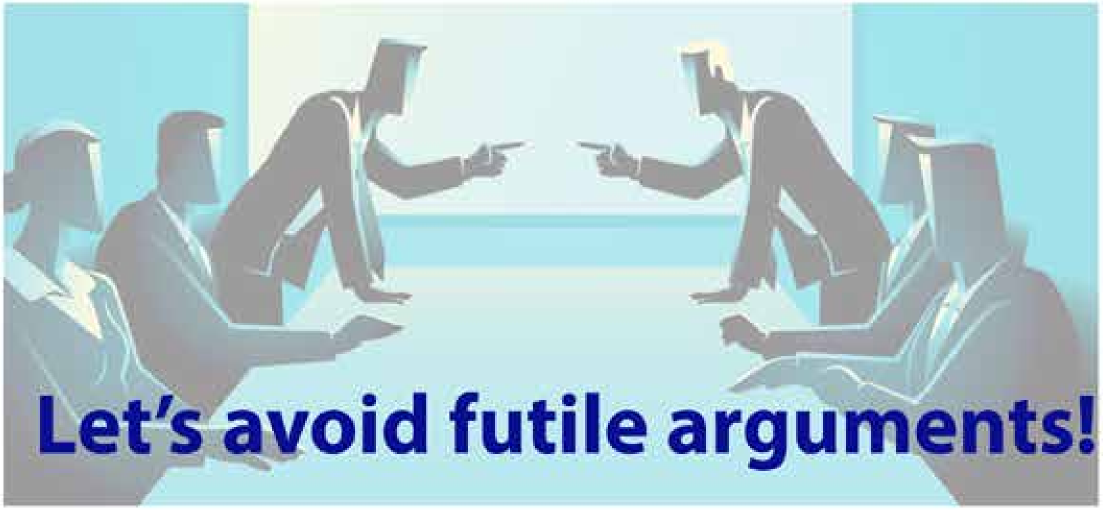
This ordinance will enable agriculturists sell their produce in their own farm or in Food Parks or to recognized traders directly.

The ordinance which provides multi-faceted marketing avenues, allows the farmers to choose their own marketing strategy and sell their produce, if they think that it will bring profits to them. The ordinance also makes it clear that the regulated markets should not collect any marketing fees from the farmers under any circumstances.

On the advice of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, the Hon'ble Governor issued the ordinance, which includes the following:

1. Reforms to the Tamil Nadu Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulations) Act 1987.

2. Extending the term of Office of the Special Officers of the Regulated Markets by 6 months after 29.05.2020.



'That thing or this?' This person or that? 'What I say is right'. ' No, what I say is correct'.

In this manner, there are many among us, who, whether they have something to do with a subject or not, needlessly enter into argumentation all the while, wasting their precious time and inviting unnecessary trouble to boot!

In train journeys and in public places, some people involve themselves in unnecessary arguments and meet with bitter consequences.

We have seen reports in newspapers that some of these hot discussions take a serious turn, leading to fisticuffs and ultimately even to murder.

It's beyond doubt that this demon of futile discussion rushes blood to the brain, clouds our judgment and results in undesirable consequences.

This is the reason why we see boards in many public places asking people not to discuss politics!

If a person has taken a firm decision on an issue he will not change it and will always try to somehow assert his stand. However, many arguments and facts are arrayed against his standpoint, he will not retract from his stand.

Finally, bitter feelings alone will result. Then, why have such discussions at all? There is a psychological truth involved in this issue.

In such arguments, a person identifies himself with the stand he has taken.

If somebody else takes a different stand, he becomes agitated as he feels that the argument is an attack on him.

As his 'ego' is aroused, he loses the mental capacity to judge and refuses to accept any argument against his stand.

This is the reason why elders advise us not to engage in empty argumentation.

A psychologist opines that he who wins an argument loses a friend. This is so because only bitterness results from such squabbles. If any discussions arise with others, they should be conducted in a constructive manner. The arguments should be confined to the subject concerned. One should ensure that they are not about the individuals involved.

When discussions within a family or with friends take a serious turn, it is better that one

of the members voluntarily withdraws from the discussion by leaving the place. Alternatively, the atmosphere can be made lighter by cracking a joke.

If not, brought to an end in a judicious manner, discussions within the family may take a serious turn and in some cases result in breaking of relationships. Sometimes, words acquire a sharpness and bitterness because of ill-health, mental agitation or some anger towards some other individual due to an earlier incident. At such a time, one of the members should withdraw from the discussion at the opportune time.

Yes… friends,

Avoid futile arguments. If it is not possible to avoid them, then be magnanimous and give a patient hearing to others as they vent their views!

Importantly, even when your stand is correct and reasonable, do not expect others to accept it fully. Because, it is against human nature: every individual happens to think that only his / her views are correct!

We should go along with the views of a person for a while and then attempt to bring him to our line of thinking. We should remember that the world does not go round as we think!

News in Picture

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami**, at the Secretariat on 01.06.2020, on behalf of the Industries Department, laid the foundation stone for a newly constructed Tidel Information Technology Park at Pattabiram in Avadi Division in Tiruvallur District, through video conferencing.

Simultaneous relief measures, relaxations to protect livelihood, develop economy

Hon'ble Chief Minister details numerous steps taken to quell Corona, seeks people's co-operation

Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami on 31.05.2020
(English Translation)

Hon'ble Amma's Government is functioning with determination in protecting the people from the Corona Virus infection and providing them the needed relief. On account of this, the percentage of recovery after treatment in Tamil Nadu is highest in the country and mortality caused by the infection very low. At the same time, Hon'ble Amma's Government is making several relaxations now and then for retrieving the livelihood of people and developing the economy. It has taken up special measures, attracted new investments, restored rural occupations and is implementing new schemes to improve industrial growth.

Following the Central Government's implementation of lockdown throughout India from 25.03.2020 under the National Disaster Management Act to prevent the spread of Corona Virus, the Tamil Nadu Government also imposed lockdown all over Tamil Nadu. Taking into account the status of the Corona Virus infection and the people's livelihood, the lockdown was extended with some relaxations till 31.05.2020. At the same time, to remove the difficulties of the poor due to the lockdown, I ordered distribution of all ration articles to the 2.01 crore (rice-drawing ration card) families for the months of April, May and June at no cost, enhanced the quantum of supply of articles like rice to construction workers and drivers in the unorganized sector and offered a second instalment of Rs.1,000 each as relief to 35.65 lakh workers in 17 welfare boards for workers in the unorganized sector and in other welfare boards in many other sectors.

To prevent the Corona Virus infection, the present lockdown under the State Disaster Management Act and the Central Home Ministry's notification, is extended till midnight 30.06.2020 with the various existing restrictions and some relaxations. The decision to extend the lockdown has been taken on the basis of views expressed in the review meetings held by me on different dates, particularly on the basis of the views conveyed by District Collectors at the video conferencing meeting held on 29.05.2020,

the interim report submitted on 26.05.2020 by the committee headed by the Additional Chief Secretary, Finance Department, constituted to recommend lifting of lockdown gradually, consultations held with medical and health experts on the 26.05.2020 and 30.05.2020, and consultations with senior ministers.

1. The ban on the following places and activities already in vogue, will be continued till revised orders come into force:

- Public worship in places of worship and all religious meetings.
- Outside tourists are banned from visiting the Nilgiris District and tourist spots in Kodaikanal and Yercaud.
- Hotels with lodging facility, resorts and other hospitality services. However, exemption is granted to Health and Police Departments, persons from other States inclusive of Government Employees and isolation works.
- Shopping malls.
- Schools, Colleges, Training Institutes, Research Centres and all Educational Institutions. However, online teaching by these institutions can continue and be encouraged.
- Ban on international air service will continue barring those works permitted by the Central Government Home Ministry.
- Metro Train/ Electric train.
- Places where people gather in large numbers like cinema theatres, gymnasiums, swimming pools, recreation clubs, bars, huge auditoria, seminar halls, beach, tourist spots, zoos and museums.
- All types of community, political, sports, recreational, cultural events, religious and educational festivals, meetings and processions.
- Inter-State bus transport

The above restrictions will be gradually relaxed as per the State of the infection's virulence.

Restrictions for funerals and marriages:

- Participants in funerals and connected rituals should not exceed 20.
- In marriage events, the number of participants should not be more than 50.

Public Bus Transport:

The State is divided into 8 zones as mentioned below for the operation of public bus transport service in the State from 01.06.2020.

Zone I - Districts of Coimbatore, the Nilgiris, Erode, Tiruppur, Karur, Salem and Namakkal;

Zone II - Districts of Dharmapuri, Vellore, Tiruppathur, Ranipet and Krishnagiri;

Zone III - Districts of Villupuram, Tiruvannamalai, Cuddalore and Kallakurichi;

Zone IV - Districts of Nagapattinam, Tiruvarur, Thanjavur, Tiruchirapalli, Ariyalur, Perambalur and Pudukkottai;

Zone V - Districts of Dindigul, Madurai,Theni, Virudhunagar, Sivagangai and Ramanathapuram;

Zone VI - Districts of Thoothukkudi, Tirunelveli, Kanniyakumari and Tenkasi;

Zone VII - Districts of Kancheepuram, Thiruvallur and Chengalpattu;

Zone VIII - Areas under Greater Chennai Police limits.

- Barring zones VII and VIII, in all other zones, only 50 per cent of the buses will be operated.
- Ban on public bus transport service will continue in areas under zones VII and VIII.
- In approved routes, permission is granted for the operation of stage carriers.
- Only 60 per cent of the seats in buses can be occupied by passengers.
- As there is no need for e-Pass for travel within the zone, there is no need for e-Pass for travel in public transport buses also.
- Barring the permitted categories, the ban continues on bus transport services between zones and States.
- Public transport buses will be operated strictly following the standard guidelines to be published by the Government separately.

e-Pass usage:

- All types of vehicles are permitted to ply within the zones mentioned in the table above. There is no need for e-Pass for them.
- The e-Pass system will continue to be in force for to and from travel to other States, to come to Tamil Nadu from other States and to travel in between the zones.

2. The following activities alone are permitted from 01.06.2020 in areas under the Greater Chennai Police limits except the containment zones:

i. IT and IT enabled service institutions are permitted to function with 20 per cent of their employees, subject to a maximum of 40 , brought by vehicles arranged by those institutions.

ii. All private institutions are permitted to work with 50 per cent employees. However, they should encourage employees working from home to the extent possible.

iii. Barring malls, all showrooms and big shops (like jewellery and textile) can function with 50 per cent employees. Owners should ensure admission of customers into the shop to a maximum of 5 customers only at a time, observing sufficient social distancing. Even if there is air-conditioning facility, it should not be operated.

iv. As per the Central Government's order, taking food in restaurants is permitted from 08.06.2020; with a view to observing social distancing, occupation of only 50 per cent of the seats in them is permitted for customers. Air-conditioning equipment should not be operated.

v. Tea stalls, eateries (till 07.06.2020, only take-away food) and vegetable and grocery shops are allowed to function between 6.a.m. and 8 p.m.

vi. As per the Central Government's order, customers are permitted to sit and eat in tea stalls to the extent of 50 per cent occupancy of seats from 08.06.2020.

vii. Rental and taxi vehicles, carrying 3 passengers apart from the driver, can be used within the zone without TN e-Pass

viii. In auto-rickshaws, only 2 passengers, besides the driver, are permitted to travel. Cycle rickshaw is permitted.

ix. Salons and beauty parlours are permitted to function without using the air-conditioning facility and by following the standard work procedures, given by Government separately.

3. Except the areas under the Greater Chennai Police limits, in the rest of the areas of Tamil Nadu (barring containment zones), permission is granted to the following activities alone from 01.06.2020.

i. Industries are permitted to function with cent per cent employees.

ii. IT and ITeS institutions are permitted to work with 100 per cent employees. Still, 20 per cent workers should be encouraged to work from house.

iii. All private institutions are permitted to function with 100 per cent work force. Still, they should encourage, to the extent possible, employees to work from home.

iv. Except malls, all showrooms and big shops (like jewellery and textile) can function with 50 per cent staff. Customers should be allowed into the shop in such a way as to keep them at a maximum of 5 at a time to observe the social distancing. Air-condition equipment should not be operated.

v. Tea stalls, eateries (till 07.06.2020 - only take away food) and vegetable and grocery shops are allowed to function between 6.a.m. and 8 p.m. TASMAC and other shops can function from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

vi. As per Central Government's order, from 08.06.2020, serving food in hotels is allowed; to adopt the social distancing norm, customer strength at any point of time cannot exceed 50 per cent of the total number of seats in the hotel. Air-conditioning facility in hotels should be shut down.

vii. As per the Central Government's order, customers are permitted to sit and take food in tea stalls from 08.06.2020 to the extent of 50 per cent occupancy of the total number of seats there.

viii. E-commerce is allowed for all goods including non-essential ones.

ix. Rental vehicles and taxis are permitted to ply with 3 passengers besides the driver.

x. Autos are permitted with two passengers. Cycle rickshaws are also permitted.

General:

- ✶ The prohibitory order under Sec.144 of the Cr.P.C. banning assembly of more than 5 persons in public places will continue to be in force.
- ✶ As per the current procedures, lockdown, without any sort of relaxation, will be enforced totally in containment zones all over Tamil Nadu.
- ✶ Industrial and commercial institutions, besides encouraging their employees/ workers to work from their homes, should strictly follow the standard guidelines.
- ✶ Though Government has permitted the general public in private transports without e-Pass, residential welfare associations and building owners should impose necessary rules and regulations on those entering their areas, particularly outsiders like domestic helps and street vendors for preventing the virus infection.

Special activities in Greater Chennai Corporation and surrounding Districts:

To prevent the virus infection from spreading in Greater Chennai and in the Districts of Kancheepuram, Chengalpattu and Thiruvallur, measures have been expedited. Particularly in Chennai, special committees headed by IAS officers have been set up in all the 15 zones and the work of contact tracing has been taken up at zonal level; surveillance in infection prevention areas has been intensified and the poor in those areas are given face mask, vitamin tablets, 'kabasura' decoction, nutritious food and the like; if their residential places are crowded, they are lodged in exclusive camps. Details about the infected persons are examined intensively and preventive works are undertaken. Apart from this, fever clinics are functioning in the 149 Urban Primary Health Centres and 19 hospitals in Chennai; more than 100 fever clinics have been set up, persons with the symptoms of infection are identified and tested. As this facilitates early detection of the infection and the starting of treatment, mortality can be averted. Similar actions have been intensified in the Districts of Kancheepuram, Thiruvallur and Chengalpattu also.

I sincerely appreciate the services of about 33,000 permanent and temporary sanitary workers who are tirelessly engaging themselves in the Corona prevention task at the field level in the areas under the jurisdiction of Greater Chennai Police, with no thought of their own selves. Recognizing their precious service and as an incentive, an honorarium of Rs.2,500 will be given to every sanitary worker working in the areas under Greater Chennai Corporation Police limits.

The poor, the aged and the differently abled in the hot spots / containment zones in Greater Chennai Corporation area, as also co-morbid persons (those already affected by blood pressure, heart disease, renal failure, cancer and the like) are more vulnerable to this infection. The residential places of the poor in these areas are so situated that social distancing cannot be adopted there. Hence Hon'ble Amma's Government has taken an important step to save them from this infection by launching house-wise inspection, especially

in crowded hutment areas in Greater Chennai Corporation limits, finding out the vulnerable persons, subjecting them to tests and lodging them in isolation camps at least for a week. This will prevent the spread of the infection in their residential places in Greater Chennai Corporation areas. Considering the livelihood of those lodged in the camps, a cash relief of Rs.1,000 each will be given to them when they return to their homes. This is applicable only to those in Greater Chennai Corporation.

Even if Government enforces lockdown, imposes a variety of restrictions, the spread of the infection cannot be prevented unless people co-operate. Wearing face mask has been made compulsory for people while going out in public. This Corona Virus infection can be controlled only if people extend full co-operation to Government by washing their hands often with soap at home and in work places, wearing face mask while going out, observing physical distancing without fail and by avoiding unnecessary outings. Hence, I request the people to co-operate with Government's efforts. ■

Special Corona masks to enable the deaf and mute observe lip movements

At a time when the Central and State Governments have enforced lockdown for preventing the further spread of the Corona Virus, swift steps are being taken in a co-ordinated manner at the District level to protect differently abled persons by meeting their daily needs.

In this respect, distribution of special masks has been planned and is being introduced for the first time in Tamil Nadu so that parents, care takers, training instructors and fellow workers can communicate with hearing impaired and mute persons. The mask is specially designed with visibility of lips so that, the hearing impaired and mute persons can observe lip movements and respond.

These special masks will be distributed through the District Welfare Offices for differently abled persons to teachers in primary training centres for the speech and hearing impaired persons and in the special schools for the hearing impaired, as well as to parents and family members of the differently abled persons, and to co-workers and managers. This will help the hearing impaired persons clearly understand conversations through the lip movements of the speaker.

The scheme envisages distribution of 81,000 special masks with respect to 13,500 hearing and speech impaired persons, at a cost of Rs.12.15 lakh. ■

Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurates 16 sub-stations costing Rs. 235.20 crore

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami, at the Secretariat on 01.06.2020, inaugurated a 110/22 KV Sub-station at Emappalli in Tiruchengode Division in Namakkal District installed at a cost of Rs.10.28 crore through video conferencing on behalf of the Energy Department. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also inaugurated 15 more Sub-stations at Tiruppur, Kancheepuram, Chengalpattu, Villupuram, Tirunelveli, Thoothukudi, Kanniyakumari, Nagapattinam, Coimbatore, Thanjavur, Salem and Krishnagiri, at a total cost of Rs.224.92 crore.

To reduce the power loss during transmission, the maintenance loss, to supply optimum power to each area and to provide trouble free power to consumers, it is necessary to have additional sub-stations. With this view, the Tamil Nadu Government, following the path of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, has been installing new sub-stations, wherever necessary and upgrading the existing sub-stations.

In this connection, a 110/22 KV Sub-station has been installed at Emapalli in Tiruchengode Division in Namakkal District, at a cost of Rs.10.28 crore and the new Sub-station was declared open on 01.06.2020 by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami.

In addition, a 230/110 KV sub-station in Tiruppur Division in Tiruppur District, at a cost of Rs.75.54 crore;

In Thirumalai Samudram in Thanjavur District a 110/33 KV Sub-station, at a cost of Rs. 10.39 crore;

Two upgraded 110/33 KV Sub-stations, one each at Chittampoondi in Villupuram

District and at Denkanikottai in Krishnagiri District, at a cost of Rs. 24.53 crore;

Three 110/33 KV Sub-stations (introduction on ratio basis) at Sriperumbudur, Nokia campus complex, Kancheepuram District, Valliyur in Tirunelveli District and Kanniyakumari in Kanniyakumari District at a total cost of Rs.7.46 crore.

Two 110/22 KV Sub-stations, one each at Belur in Salem District and at Arasadi in Thoothukudi District, at a total cost of Rs. 19.72 crore;

Three 110/11 KV sub-stations, one each at Indalur in Chengalpattu District, at Race Course Road and Pattanam in Coimbatore District, at a total cost of Rs.72.36 crore.

An upgraded 110/11 KV sub-station at Kidarankondan in Nagapattinam District, at a cost of Rs.4.93 crore and

Two 33/11 KV power sub-stations, one each at Valliyur in Tirunelveli District and Cape in Kanniyakumari District, at a total cost of Rs.9.97 crore.

Totally, 16 power stations, costing Rs.235.20 crore were inaugurated by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami through video conferencing at the Secretariat on 01.06.2020. ■

Major Health Benefits of Tulsi

- It helps in fast healing due to its Anti-bacterial and Anti infection properties
- It is Insecticidal therefore used to get rid of insects at home
- It prevents inflammation of mucus membrane
- Relives ear-ache
- It helps in fighting Viral infections such as common Cold and Fever
- It detoxifies the body from harmful free radicals
- Due to its antiseptic properties, it is used in various cosmetic products as well
- It is full of phytochemicals such as alkaloids, saponins, tannins, glycosides, Vitamin C, volatile oils and acids.

Environmental Engineer's office building opened for Tiruvannamalai division

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami, at the Secretariat on 01.06.2020, declared open on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board under the Forest and Environment Department, the Environmental Engineer's office building, constructed at a cost of Rs.2.01 crore at the District Collectorate Complex in Vengikkal Village in Tiruvannamalai Division in Tiruvannamalai District.

The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board has set up District Environmental Engineer offices in all 38 Districts, to implement the Environment and Pollution Control Acts effectively. Of these, 25 offices are already functioning in their own buildings. In the budget demand for the Environment Ministry for the year 2016-2017, the State Government announced that a new District office building for the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board would be opened at Tiruvannamalai.

As per the announcement, the District Environmental Engineer Office was constructed on a 1,000 sq. metre area with ground floor and first floor at a cost of Rs. 2.01 crore at the Vengikkal Village in Tiruvannamalai division in Tiruvannamalai District and the same was declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

In the new building, District Environmental Engineer's room, Assistant Engineer's rooms, Technical Wing, Administrative Wing, Accounts Wing, Registration room, Grievance Redressal Centre, Reception room, Waiting Room for Visitors, drinking water facility and toilets, ramp for physically challenged persons, Seminar hall for conducting meetings and space for parking vehicles have been provided.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister on the occasion also released a book titled 'TNPCB and You' containing details regarding Environmental and Pollution Control rules and guidelines for the benefit of new entrepreneurs who want to start new industries in the State.

Aarogya Setu app launched for non-smart phones

Hon'ble Union Minister congratulates Tamil Nadu 'for playing stellar role' against Corona Virus pandemic

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami at the Secretariat and Hon'ble Union Minister for Communications, Electronics & Information Technology and Law & Justice, Thiru. Ravi Shankar Prasad at New Delhi, launched through video conferencing on 09.04.2020, Aarogya Setu Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) (94999 12345), jointly developed by the Tamil Nadu Health Department, TNeGA, IIT Madras and the Department of Telecom, Government of India.

The Hon'ble Union Minister, Thiru. Ravi Shankar Prasad's address on the occasion:

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami, the distinguished Hon'ble Minister for Health, Hon'ble Minister for Information Technology and all the officers, Vanakkam to all of you.

I also take this opportunity to convey my profound regards to the memory of Puratchi Thalaivi, whose records of governance of people's welfare is well known to all of us. At the outset, Hon'ble Chief Minister, I convey my profound appreciation of the "stellar role" the Government of Tamil Nadu is playing in controlling this serious pandemic, almost a kind of curse for humanity, the Covid-19. This is a serious challenge to all of us, not only to India but globally. What is important is that we must employ all the technology at our command to ensure that lives are not lost and people who are catching this virus are suitably and promptly sensitized on the need to take pro-active measures. It is in that light this particular Aarogya Setu IVRS, is a fine innovation of technology. The IIT Madras needs to be complimented, the BSNL's role needs to be

appreciated and the Information Technology and Health Department of the Government of Tamil Nadu also need to be complimented.

Today indeed a great day as to how the Government of India and the Government of Tamil Nadu and all of us can work together to invest, innovate and propagate this new form of technology so that people afflicted or people going to catch this particular curse of humanity are given due assistance. The details have already been explained by the DoT Secretary Thiru.Anshu Prakash. What I would like to emphasize today, Hon'ble Chief Minister, is that the innovation shall be replicated in other States as well. As you know, Arogya Setu has been already launched, crores and crores of people have downloaded it, but that was only confined to Smart phones. Today's initiative is also available in non-smart phones . India as you know, is the country of 130 crores of people, where there are nearly 120 crore plus mobile phones. Therefore, (the question is) how we can reach the common people in this hour of crisis and give them a helping hand. This is what today's initiative is about. I can only flag two or three things-- that it will have timely detection and most important timely assistance and also important, prompt guidance. Detection, Assistance and Guidance to patients would come like a big emotional support during these times. You would know that the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Thiru. Narendra Modiji is taking a pro-active lead in containing this virus. All the State Governments are contributing a lot including the State of Tamil Nadu, so that this virus, I would say almost like a big curse on humanity, should be checked at the earliest. You all have to be on guard. You all have to work together and we all have to overcome and India shall overcome. That great spirit of confidence today is manifested in the innovation of technology which is going to work together. I only hope and pray that God should bless all of us that we pull all our resources from technology to human resource to social commitment to governance initiative, both at the Government of India-level and the State Government-level in a common determination to ensure that we are able to control it. With these words, Hon'ble Chief Minister, I convey my greetings to you and your Government once again and this is a beginning of a renewed co-ordination, when the Government of India and the State Government will ensure that we become victorious.

My greetings and Vanakkam.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister, who spoke thereupon, said:

Hon'ble Ravi Shankar Prasadji, Hon'ble Minister for Health, Hon'ble Minister for Revenue and Disaster Management, distinguished Chief Secretary, Secretary to Government of India and other officials, Vanakkam.

The Corona pandemic has posed a challenge to humanity. India is fighting back with all its might. The IVRS system, jointly developed by the Tamil Nadu Health Department, TNeGA, IIT Madras and the Department of Telecom, Government of

India, is one more step towards controlling the pandemic. The advantage of this IVRS System is that it does not require internet connection and it works in simple, easy to understand, question-answer mode. Most importantly, people can converse in their mother tongue.

This system is very easy to use and people can give a missed call to 94999 12345. The system calls them back and asks simple questions and based on the replies provided by them, it gives the right advice and brings them out of their worries regarding Corona.

I am grateful for the support of Hon'ble Minister Thiru. Ravi Shankar Prasadji in leading this initiative. I would like to assure the people of Tamil Nadu that the Government is working day and night to control this epidemic. We request our people to support us by staying home during Lockdown period.

Nandri, Vanakkam.

This IVRS is for the benefit of 60 per cent of cell phone users who do not use smart phones. This app does not require internet connection. The system has been so designed to register questions about Corona and how the Virus spreads automatically. The answers from the beneficiaries are routed to the Call Centres of the respective Districts for further action. For using this service, the beneficiary is to send a missed call or send an SMS to 94999 12345. The beneficiary will immediately get his registered information through SMS. Subsequently he will get a call from BSNL. The beneficiary can then register his health condition, symptoms about Corona, diabetes and BP through this call. Based on the details provided by the caller, his place of residence is located and depending on the condition of the caller, Ambulance and other Medical Assistance are provided to the caller through the District Control Room. Based on the details provided by the caller, the intensity of the Corona Infection is classified as Low Risk, Moderate Risk and High Risk cases.

In case of low risk persons, the app gives advice about hand washing, safe coughing, social distance maintenance and environment health.

For moderate risk persons, help is provided through District Control Room to get emergency medical assistance.

For high risk persons, action is initiated as per protocol by District Emergency Control Room.

Through this IVRS it is possible to connect a great number of people and take up Corona control activities quickly at the District-level itself. Again, members of the common public, family members or individuals can voluntarily register details about the symptoms of Corona infection and information about Corona infections in the vicinity, they can get details about what to do and what not to do in case of Corona infection, they can get in touch with officers of the nearby Emergency control room and they can learn the methods of hand washing, safe coughing, social distancing and social hygiene.

Hon'ble Chief Minister writes to Global Heads of 13 companies

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami has taken several steps for attracting foreign investments into Tamil Nadu. This included the launch of "Yaadhum Oorey" Portal, Country Specific Investment Facilitation Desks and Diplomatic Outreach Programmes.

Due to the impact caused by COVID-19 to the world economy, many overseas industries are likely to exit from certain countries and relocate their manufacturing activities in countries like India. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has constituted a special Investment Promotion Task Force under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary for attracting these investments. The positive steps taken by the Government is already showing results as evidenced by the fact that the State could recently sign MoUs with 17 foreign investments for Rs.15,128 crore. This shows that Tamil Nadu is the best destination for investment even in this pandemic situation.

Tamil Nadu has taken several steps to attract investors across the globe. Now, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami has decided to personally reach out the 13 Global Heads of prominent companies in the electronic sector by writing directly to them including the Chief Executive Officer of M/s.Apple Mr. Tim Cook, President and Chief Executive Officer of M/s.Samsung Mr.Kim Hyun Suk, Chief Executive Officer of M/s.Amazon Mr.Jeff Bezos, President and Chief Executive Officer of HP Mr.Enrique.

The letters outline the investment attractiveness and inherent advantages of the State of Tamil Nadu and offers excellent support for business and industry to further their growth and promises a customized incentive package as per their requirement. ■

Medicinal Uses

This plant is called Sitharathai, Lesser Galangal in English Sitharathai's botanical name is Alpinia Officinarum. It is an important herb and Rhizomes are used in bronchial infections and as a carminative. Also useful in treatment against rheumatoid arthritis Used in headache, sore throat, pain in the chest, diabetes, burning of the liver, cough, dyspepsia, asthma etc.

Hon'ble Chief Minister gives clarion call

Tackling Corona pandemic squarely with eyes set on economic revival

Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami** at a meeting of entrepreneurs of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and the Chennai International Centre on 15.05.2020. *(English Translation)*

Vanakkam,

Hon'ble Minister for Industries,

Chief Secretary of the Tamil Nadu Government, Thiru. K.Shanmugam, I.A.S.,

Frontline Entrepreneurs of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises,

Hearty welcome to all of you.

The outbreak of Corona Virus is a pandemic and in recent times, the biggest challenge in the history of mankind. Lakhs of people have been affected by the virus and thousands of people have died due to Corona infection. Its impact on the world economy is very great.

In Tamil Nadu, the disease has caused manifold impact. The Tamil Nadu Government, whose sole aim is to protect the people, has created all the infrastructure necessary to fight the disease. The Government is actively co-ordinating with Doctors, Health Workers, Sanitary Employees, Police Forces, other Government Employees, Industrialists and the common public to prevent the disease from spreading.

In these circumstances, I have announced special incentives to encourage manufacture of medicines and medical gadgets in Tamil Nadu itself. Thanks to my appeal and the special attempts by entrepreneurs, about 1,500

enterprises in the State have started production and are supplying the same throughout India. It is significant to note that a majority of them are Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises. At any given emergency situation and disaster, Tamil Nadu stands in support of the country. Through this, the skill of our Entrepreneurs has been proved once again.

To strengthen the efforts of the Government, many Entrepreneurs have voluntarily come forward to donate in a big way towards the Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund. I sincerely thank them for this.

While taking steps to arrest the spread of the disease, the Government is simultaneously providing basic assistance in many ways to the people for their livelihood. As a next step, the Government has been relaxing the restrictions gradually. The Tamil Nadu is the only State where even during the lockdown period, permission was given to industries to carry out maintenance work in their units. In addition, the Government has given permission to enterprises that manufacture goods required during the emergency time and 10 types of industries that require continuous operation.

Meanwhile, the Government has constituted a committee, consisting of Government officials, Health Department officials and Industrialists to suggest steps for gradual relaxation of curbs in the State. Based on the expert committee's report, relaxations have been made.

Now industries in other parts of the State, apart from Chennai, have started functioning. I appreciate those industries for following the Government guidelines. Based on the situation, more relaxations will be announced by the Government. This is the time when the industrialists must be vigilant on preventing the virus spread and at the same time engage in production with sufficient protection.

On 31.03.2020, I announced Covid Relief and Upliftment Scheme (CORUS) to extend financial assistance through TIIC to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and allotted Rs.200 crore. Under the Scheme, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises will be given loan without any sureity. Under the scheme, so far 799 Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises were given loans to the tune of Rs.102 crore.

Meanwhile, we have written a letter to the Union Minister of Finance insisting that SIDBI should allot sufficient funds to TIIC to provide loans to the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises. I have also written letters to the Hon'ble Prime Minister and Hon'ble Minister Thiru. Nitin Gadkari to provide special relief to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises. Following the letter, the Central Government has announced various concessions.

I have advised the Chief Secretary and Secretaries of other Departments to suggest the guidelines that will enthuse the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises to avail the maximum

assistance through the scheme. I have also ordered State-level meeting of Banks to trigger the process.

In view of the impact on the world economy due to the Corona pandemic, industries in some countries have decided to shift their operations to other nations, including India. A testing time like this has resulted in historic changes. To attract such industries which have planned to shift their operations, I have constituted a special committee headed by the Chief Secretary with members from Government Employees and Joint industrial groups of Japan, Korea, Singapore, the US and Taiwan.

The State Government has also constituted a high-level committee, headed by former RBI Governor Dr.C.Rangarajan, with economic experts, entrepreneurs and Government staff as members to suggest measures for the reconstruction of the economy after the Corona impact.

Industrialists have placed several demands to the Government. You are also likely to suggest many ideas at the meeting. I would like to assure you that the Government will consider the demands depending on the State's finances and power.

At this juncture, I have instructed officials to pay more attention to the Government's action plan as far as industrialists are concerned, with regard to 4 important issues.

Retrieving the industries from the present crisis by providing all assistance to them. Attracting new investments. Simplifying Government permissions and other formalities and Making loan issue procedures simpler and increasing money circulation.

If entrepreneurs want to meet me in person, appointment should be given to them within 24 hours and on the same date, Chief Secretary and other senior officials will also meet them.

A special package will be prepared for Medical industries, Defence, Electrical vehicles, ESDM and textile units.

By actively involving themselves, the new and the existing industries will definitely prosper and successfully meet the challenges posed by the Corona Virus.

As the industries begin their production at a testing time, I appeal to them to follow the Government guidelines and ensure job guarantees by working in a co-ordinated manner.

I assure you that, the Tamil Nadu Government will continue to remain as strong as a fortress to entrepreneurs and industrialists and support them in the industrial growth of the State.

Nandri! Vanakkam!

Tamil Nadu Government fights Corona relentlessly; persists with some curbs, announces relaxations

Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami on 17.05.2020
(English Translation)

Ever since coming to know that the Corona Virus had started spreading in China in January 2020, the Tamil Nadu Government has been functioning actively on this front. Between January and March this year, orders were issued for procuring essential medicines worth Rs.146.21 crore protective dresses, 1.45 crore 3 ply masks and 24 lakh N95 masks. After the World Health Organization (WHO) announced the disease as a Pandemic, the Tamil Nadu Government issued orders under theTamil Nadu Public Health Act 1939 and the Epidemic Diseases Act of 1897 to prevent the spread of the disease.

Following the Central Government's decision to clamp lockdown from 25.03.2020 under the National Disaster Management Act throughout the country to prevent the spread of the disease, the Tamil Nadu Government also ordered lockdown in the State. Subsequently, the Central Government issued orders extending the lockdown period from 17.05.2020 and the same was followed by the Tamil Nadu Government. Hon'ble Amma's Government has been functioning actively by providing necessary relief to the people thereby protecting them from the disease. That is the reason why the disease spread was less in the State and the percentage of people who returned home after

treatment for the infection was more when compared to other States in the country. The number of deaths due to the disease in the State was also less when compared to the all-India average.

After my meeting with District Collectors on 13.05.2020 under my Chairmanship, based on their views, the number of beneficiaries under the National Employment Guarantee Scheme was increased to 50 per cent as against the permitted 33 per cent. Similarly in Corporations, Municipalities, Town Panchayats and rural areas except those within the Greater Chennai Police Limits, all industrial units, including textile units and power looms were allowed to function with 50 per cent of the staff and the SEZ, EOU and Export Units were also allowed function with 50 per cent employees. Government Orders were issued in this connection.

It has been decided to extend the lockdown till midnight 12 on 31.05.2020 under the State Disaster Management Act, with a view to prevent the spread of Corona Virus with the existing guidelines and some relaxations. The decision has been based on consensus reached at the review meetings, organized by me on various dates, especially the video conferencing with District Collectors on 13.05.2020 and with medical experts and Health experts on 14.05.2020 and after consultation with the Senior Ministers.

The existing ban on the following institutions, services and activities will continue till enactment of a new order.

1. Schools, Colleges, Training Institutes, Research Institutes and all Educational Institutions.
2. In all Religious places, Public worship and Religion-related gatherings.
3. Theatres, where public gather in large numbers, entertainment parks, liquor bars, gymnasiums, beach, tourist spots, zoos, museums, swimming pools, playgrounds, big halls and seminar halls.
4. All religious, social, political, sports, entertainment, education and cultural events, meetings and processions.
5. No permission for air, train and bus services, inter-state trains, movement of trains from Chennai to other places. Only the air, train and public transport systems permitted by the Central/State Governments are allowed to function.
6. Taxies, autos and cycle rickshaws shall not ply.
7. Metro train and suburban train services are closed.
8. Boarding lodges (except accommodation meant for employees), boarding hotels and resorts shall not function.
9. Not more than 20 persons are allowed in a funeral procession.

10. The existing procedures for marriage functions will continue.

The existing controls will continue:

- There is no change in the existing controls in 12 Districts namely Chennai, Kancheepuram, Thiruvallur, Chengalpattu, Villupuram, Cuddalore, Ranipet, Tiruppathur, Kallakurichi, Tirvannamalai, Ariyalur and Perambalur and there is no relaxation.
- There is ban on entry of tourists to tourist centres such as the Nilgiris, Kodaikanal and Yercaud.
- The lockdown will be observed in full without any relaxation in the Containment Zones in the State.
- In Greater Chennai Corporation, in places other than Containment Zones, the existing permitted activities may continue.
- Except in Greater Chennai Police limit and in Containment Zones in other parts of the State, all the permitted activities may continue.

New Relaxations:

As per the recommendation of the high tech committee formed to suggest steps for gradual withdrawal of curfew, the following relaxations are announced:

Some relaxations are allowed in the following 25 Districts: Coimbatore, Salem, Erode, Tiruppur, Namakkal, Karur, Tirunelveli, Thoothukudi, Tenkasi, Kanniyakumari, Theni, Madurai, Sivagangai, Virudhunagar, Ramanathapuram, Dindigul, Pudukkottai, Tiruchirappalli, Tiruvarur, Thanjavur, Nagapattinam, Dharmapuri, Krishnagiri, Vellore and the Nilgiris.

Movement of vehicles within the above Districts is allowed without TN-ePass. To prevent the spread of the disease within the District, members of the public are requested to make use of the transport for carrying out only the permitted activities and essential services.

The existing e-Pass requirement for movement from one District to other District continues.

Government buses and private buses, which are given special permission for transporting workers for Government services and private enterprises, at the maximum can carry only 20 persons in case of buses, 7 in case of vans, 3 persons in case of big cars like Innova and 2 persons excluding driver in case of small cars.

In 25 Districts where movement of vehicles is allowed within the District without e-Pass, only hire taxies are allowed for agriculture, business and medical purposes. People should avoid going out of their houses unnecessarily.

For the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, permission is given for 100 per cent recruitment from the present 50 per cent recruitment.

At present, in all Corporations, Municipalities and Town Panchayats, other than the areas within the Greater Chennai Police

border, industrial units in which the workers strength is less than 50 are allowed to function with cent per cent workers strength and the units in which total workers is more than 50 can function with 50 per cent of workers. Now, as per relaxation, industrial units in which the work force is less that 100 can utilize the services of the entire work force and the units with a work force of more than 100 are allowed to utilize 50 per cent of their staff strength or a minimum of 100 workers.

Private enterprises and commercial establishments, which are temporarily closed during the lockdown period are allowed to function for maintenance work with minimum number of employees.

Exemption has been given for the valuation of 12th standard examination papers.

Training for the national and international games by individual trainers is exempted. But, they should get permission from the District Collector or Greater Chennai Corporation Commissioner.

In 12 Districts, where transportation is not allowed within the District, exemption is given for taxies and autos with TN e-Pass for transporting patients for medical treatment.

General:

All the District Collectors and Corporation Commissioners must ensure, as advised by the Government, the wearing of face masks, practice of social distancing, frequent washing of hands with soap, use of sufficient disinfection materials and monitoring of the safe working environment of employees. As the lockdown order continues, the officials are instructed that they must ensure that not more than 5 persons assemble at a public place.

The Tamil Nadu Government is keenly watching the spread of the Corona Virus. More relaxations will be announced as and when the virus infections begin to come down.

Under the Central Government's Vande Bharat Mission, Tamils stranded abroad are being brought by air and sea. So far, 1,665 Tamils have been brought by planes and 264 by ships. Taking into consideration the demand of Tamils who are stranded in foreign countries and want to return, I have instructed officials to take the necessary steps to bring them back by co-ordinating with the Central Government. Similarly, I have instructed officials to take steps to enable Tamils stranded in other States to be brought to the State through special trains. During this week, 2 Rajdhani Expresses were operated from New Delhi to Chennai. Steps will be taken operate this special trains twice a week with the permission of the Central Government in the coming weeks.

Hon'ble Amma's Government is implementing many measures to prevent the spread of Corona Virus in the State. I appeal to the people to extend their full co-operation and support to the Government for the steps being taken.

Ensuring food security while preventing Corona infections

Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami on 27.05.2020 *(English Translation)*

The Tamil Nadu Government is taking various measures on a war-footing to prevent the spread of Corona Virus in the State and to provide relief to the people. Tamil Nadu has been under lockdown since 24.03.2020 under the State Disaster Management Act.

Hon'ble Amma's Government announced a special relief scheme of Rs. 3,280 crore even before the imposition of the lockdown in the State as the Government realized in advance that the disease spread would affect the livelihood of people. As per the relief measures, Rs.1,000 in cash was distributed to 2.01 crore rice cardholders in the State in the month of April, besides rice, sugar, dhal and cooking oil at no cost. Cash relief was distributed to 98.85 per cent of cardholders and commodities at no cost were distributed to 96.30 per cent of cardholders in the month of April itself.

In addition to this, as the lockdown continued in the State, I ordered that each cardholder would be given 1 kg of dhal and 1 kg of cooking oil for the month of May also as in April besides eligible quantity of rice and sugar at no cost. As per this order, commodities for the month of May are being distributed for about 1.84 crore cardholders.

Besides, an order has been issued that all cardholders in the State will be given 5 kg of rice for each member of the cardholder's family for 3 months from April to June, at no cost. As per the order, based on the total number of members of the family, cardholders will get additional rice and for the cardholders having 4 or more family members, twice the quantity of rice quota has been given for the current 3 months.

As per the order, all cardholders in the State will get their June quota, that is 1 kg of cooking oil and 1 kg of dhal and rice cardholders additional quantity of rice along with their normal quantity of rice at fair price shops at no cost.

Tamil Nadu is the only State in the country where all cardholders are getting rice, sugar, dhal and cooking oil at no cost continuously for 3 months to ensure their food security.

To avert the spread of the disease and to ensure proper distribution of essentials, tokens will be issued from 29.05.2020 to 31.05.2020 to the cardholders at their doorsteps. These tokens will specify the date and time of distribution of the essentials. The cardholders concerned can get their essentials from their fair price shops from June 1 as per the date and time mentioned in the tokens. As per the procedure, cardholders will continue to get the essentials from June 1.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has appealed to the cardholders to receive their essentials at no cost from their fair shops by wearing face masks and adhering to social distancing.

Hon’ble Chief Minister orders Mettur water release

Directives issued to enable farmers get maximum yield

Statement of the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami, regarding the release of water from
Mettur Dam for Irrigation in the Delta Districts on 18.05.2020 *(English Translation)*

Hon’ble Amma’s Government has been taking significant measures continuously for the welfare of the farming community in the Delta region which is known as the granary of Tamil Nadu. The decisions include enactment of the Tamil Nadu Protected Agriculture Zone Development Act 2020, creation of new Agriculture Research Centre, Traditional Paddy Varieties Protection Centre and greater fund allocation for Horticulture and Agriculture Engineering services.

A review meeting was held at the Secretariat on 18.05.2020 regarding the release of water from Mettur Dam for “Kuruvai cultivation” by the delta farmers. The meeting was attended by Hon’ble Deputy Chief Minister Thiru.O.Panneerselvam, Hon’ble Minister for Co-operation Thiru. Sellur K.Raju, Hon’ble Minister for Food and Civil Supplies Thiru. R.Kamaraj, Hon’ble Minister for Handlooms and Textiles Thiru. O.S.Manian, Hon’ble Minister for Agriculture Thiru. R.Doraikkannu, Chief Secretary Thiru. K.Shanmugam I.A.S., Additional Chief Secretary for Co-operation, Food and Consumer Protection

Thiru. Dayanand Kataria I.A.S., Agriculture Production Commissioner and Principal Secretary to Government Thiru. Gagandeep Singh Bedi I.A.S., Principal Secretary for Public Works Department Thiru. K. Manivasan I.A.S., and high Government officials.

At present, the water level at the Dam is 100.01 feet and the storage is 64.85 tmc ft. The present storage is sufficient for irrigation for 50 days. According to Weather Office reports, the South West Monsoon will set in as per schedule. So, considering the welfare of Delta District farmers and the petitions submitted by them, I have issued orders for the release of water from the Mettur Dam for "Kuruvai" cultivation in the Delta Districts from 10 am, on June 12.

To enable the farmers get the maximum yield, I have issued the following directives to the Department officials.

1. The Electricity Department has been advised to ensure 12 hour uninterrupted 3 Phase Power supply for the Delta areas.
2. A and B irrigation canals should be swiftly desilted by the Public Works Department; similarly, the C and D irrigation canals should be desilted through the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. District Collectors of the Delta Districts have been advised to see that the officials of the PWD and Rural Development Department are involved in the desilting operations.
3. Sufficient stock of seeds of short-term paddy crops should be maintained and distributed to the farmers.
4. Planting machinery, tractors and rotavators and power tillers should be kept ready.
5. Steps should be taken to keep sufficient stock of chemical fertilizers necessary for paddy cultivation at the Primary Agriculture Co-operative Societies and with private fertilizer dealers. Similarly, sufficient stock of micro nutrient mixtures and bio-fertilizers should be kept at the Government Agriculture Extension Centres.
6. Agriculture officials should give proper advice to farmers who have wells, to complete the nursery planting and the transplantation before June 12.
7. Farmers who do not have wells should raise nurseries in the third week of May and keep the land ready for

transplantation activities by the 3rd week of June when the water reaches the canals. For this they should co-ordinate with Agriculture Department officials by raising common (social) nurseries.

8. For getting the maximum yield, Agriculture Department officials should popularize mechanization of agriculture among farmers, through methods such as System of Rice Intensification technique and mechanical ploughing.

9. Agriculture Department officials should take steps to create awareness among farmers about summer ploughing and cultivation of green manure plants.

10. To facilitate farmers to take up kuruvai cultivation, the primary agricultural co-operative societies have been directed to sanction interest free crop loans to them.

11. In view of the Corona Virus spread, farmers and agricultural workers are advised to wear face masks and maintain social distance while carrying out farming operations.

Last year about 2.9 lakh hectares of land were brought under "Kuruvai cultivation" in the Delta Districts and about 4.59 lakh metric tonnes of rice have been realized. In the current year, in view of the special package announced by the Government, about 3.2 lakh hectares of land is likely to be brought under "Kuruvai cultivation" in the Delta Districts and we are expecting a yield of about 5.60 lakh metric tonnes of rice. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has appealed to farmers to use water judiciously and get the maximum yield.

This year, Hon'ble Amma's Government has procured about 22.81 lakh metric tonnes of paddy directly from farmers in the current year as against the target of 28 lakh metric tonnes. The Government is confident of creating a historic record this year by procuring the remaining paddy from the farmers.

Despite insufficient water, Tamil Nadu farmers have achieved record crop production using modern techniques and won the Central Government's Krishi Karman Award 5 times. I am confident that as the situation is conducive for the release of water from the Mettur Dam at the scheduled date, this year also the State will achieve a record food-grains production. ■

Tenth Class Public Exams Cancelled

Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami** on 09.06.2020 *(Englsih Translation)*

The Government had issued orders for conducting 10th Class Board Examinations and for the pending subjects for the 11th Examinations (Chemistry, Accountancy and Geography-New syllabus), Chemistry, Accountancy and Geography and for the Technical Education (Accountancy - old syllabus) for the academic year 2019-2020, from June 15 to June 25 and was taking necessary steps for conducting the examinations. Meanwhile, a case was filed in the Madras High Court in this connection and the court directed the Tamil Nadu Government to consider postponement of the examinations in view of the increasing number of Corona cases in the State.

Subsequently, the State Government conducted a detailed review of the situation and considered the fact that Corona outbreak was widely prevalent in Greater Chennai Corporation and in some other Districts. Infectious diseases experts felt that there was little possibility of the virus spread to come down in the near future. Taking into consideration the demand of the parents and to protect the students from Corona infections, the Government decided to cancel the 10th Class Board Examinations and the pending subjects of the 11th Class completely. As the examinations are cancelled, all the students are declared pass in the Examinations. The marks for the students in the final examinations will be calculated based on their performance in the school examinations and their attendance during the academic year. While 80 per cent of the marks will be based on their performance in the quarterly and half yearly examinations, the balance 20 per cent will be on the basis of their attendance during the academic year.

As far as 12th Class is concerned, the Supplementary Examinations for those who did not pass have been postponed indefinitely and the revised schedule for the examination will be announced later depending on the circumstances. ■

Tamilarasu

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Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami,** declared open the memorial pillar of the musical genius Nallappaswamy constructed on behalf of the Information and Public Relations Department at Vilathikulam in Thoothukudi District, through video conferencing at the Secretariat, Chennai on 01.06.2020.

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